



Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-NY, holds a photo of a stretch limousine during a news conference in New York, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018.

Associated Press

## Calls for new regulation mount as limo crash victims mourned

By **MICHAEL BALSAMO and MICHAEL HILL**

**Associated Press**

**AMSTERDAM, N.Y. (AP)** —

The day after a mourning community said last good-byes to eight of 20 victims

of a limousine crash — four sisters and four other relatives — the Senate's top Democrat called on federal regulators to formulate new safety standards for the vehicles.

Sen. Chuck Schumer on Sunday pointed to glaring gaps in safety data and singled out the National Transportation Safety Board, which he said hasn't thoroughly investigated a lim-

ousine crash in three years. His criticism comes a week after the stretch limo loaded with 18 people on their way to a birthday party for one of the occupants ran a stop sign and crashed at

the bottom of a hill in the town of Schoharie. Everyone in the limo died, including the four sisters, along with two pedestrians.

**Continued on Page 3**

## Trump asks GOP chair to serve a second term

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump has asked Republican National Committee Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel to serve a second term. That's according to a per-

son familiar with the president's decision. The decision comes as the president looks to build out his team for his re-election campaign. As head of the RNC, McDaniel leads

the party's fundraising and voter mobilization efforts. McDaniel has accepted Trump's offer. The RNC will hold an official vote in January. The person familiar with Trump's decision was



not authorized to discuss the matter publicly. Axios first reported that the president had asked McDaniel to stay on. □

**In this May 24, 2018 file photo, Chair of the Republican National Committee Ronna McDaniel appears on the "Fox & Friends" television program in New York.**

**Associated Press**



# Mattis pushes closer ties to Vietnam amid tension with China

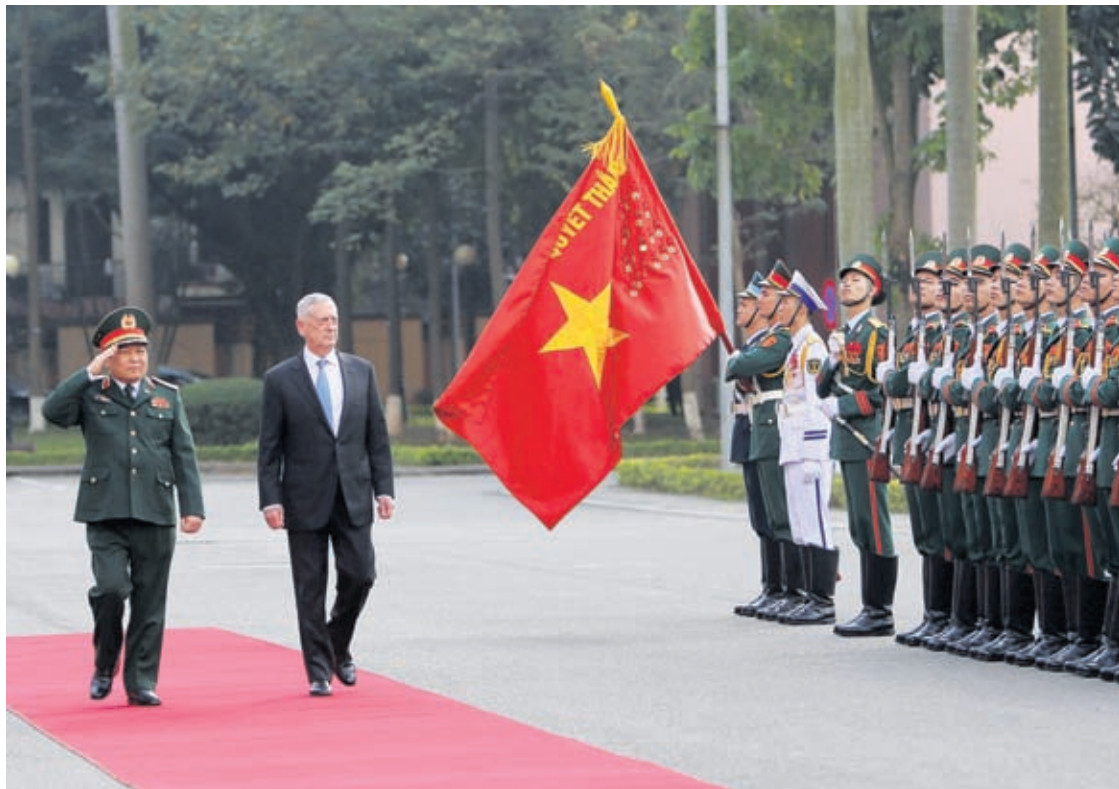
By **ROBERT BURNS**

**AP National Security Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — By making a rare second trip this year to Vietnam, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis is signaling how intensively the Trump administration is trying to counter China's military assertiveness by cozying up to smaller nations in the region that share American wariness about Chinese intentions.

The visit beginning Tuesday also shows how far U.S.-Vietnamese relations have advanced since the tumultuous years of the Vietnam War.

Mattis, a retired general who entered the Marine Corps during Vietnam but did not serve there, visited Hanoi in January. By coincidence, that stop came just



In this Jan. 25, 2018, file photo, U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and his Vietnamese counterpart Ngo Xuan Lich, left, review an honor guard in Hanoi, Vietnam.

rior to the communists took over the Republic of South Vietnam in 1975, the city was renamed for the man who led the Vietnamese nationalist movement. Mattis also plans to visit a Vietnamese air base, Bien Hoa, a major air station for American forces during the war, and meet with the defense minister, Ngo Xuan Lich.

The visit comes amid a leadership transition after the death in September of Vietnam's president, Tran Dai Quang. Earlier this month, Vietnam's ruling Communist Party nominated its general secretary, Nguyen Phu Trong, for the additional post of president. He is expected to be approved by the National Assembly.

Although Vietnam has become a common destination for American secretaries of defense, two visits in one year is unusual, and Ho Chi Minh City is rarely on the itinerary. The last Pentagon chief to visit Ho Chi Minh City was William Cohen in the year 2000; he was the first U.S. defense secretary to visit Vietnam since the war. Formal diplomatic relations were restored in 1995 and the U.S. lifted its war-era arms embargo in 2016.

The Mattis trip originally was to include a visit to Beijing, but that stop was canceled amid rising tensions over trade and defense issues. China recently rejected a request for a Hong Kong port visit by an American warship, and last summer Mattis disinvited China from a major maritime exercise in the Pacific. China in September scrapped a Pentagon visit by its navy chief and demanded that Washington cancel an arms sale to Taiwan.

Josh Kurlantzick, a senior fellow and Asia specialist at the Council on Foreign Relations, said in an interview that Vietnam in recent years has shifted from a foreign and defense policy that carefully balanced relations with China and the United States to one that shades in the direction of Washington. □

## Associated Press

days before the 50th anniversary of the Tet Offensive in 1968. Tet was a turning point when North Vietnamese fighters attacked an array of key objectives in the South, surprising Washington and feeding anti-war sentiment even though the North's offensive turned out to be a tactical military failure.

Three months after the Mattis visit, an U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, the USS Carl Vinson, made a port call at Da Nang. It was the first such visit since the war and a reminder to China that the U.S. is intent on strengthening partnerships in the region as a counterweight to China's growing military might.

The most vivid expression of Chinese assertiveness is its transformation of contested islets and other features in the South China Sea into strategic military outposts. The Trump administration has sharply criticized China for deploying surface-to-air missiles and other weapons on some of these outposts. In June, Mattis said the placement of these weapons is "tied directly to military use for the purposes of intimidation and coercion." This time Mattis is visiting Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's most populous city and its economic center. Known as Saigon during the pe-

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## Calls for new regulation mount as limo crash victims mourned

Continued from Front

"The sad fact here is that right now everyone is talking about limo safety when we could have been studying it for the past few years," Schumer said. "The NTSB knows they need to fix this situation so we can have as much information as possible available."

At a news conference, he called on the NTSB to investigate every stretch limo crash that has occurred in the U.S. and use the data to make recommendations for safety standards that would then have to be implemented by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration. The NTSB — charged by Congress to conduct independent probes and make safety recommendations — agreed to investigate limo crashes on a case-by-case basis after a 2015 wreck that killed four women on New York's Long Island.

But since then, Schumer said, multiple crashes should have been investigated and would have netted "critical safety data" about the structure and safety components of limousines. Federal crash data compiled by The Associated Press shows there were seven limo crashes in 2015 and two in 2016.

Factory-built limousines must meet stringent safety regulations. But luxury cars converted to limos, like the one in last week's crash, often lack such safety components as side-impact air bags, reinforced rollover protection bars and acces-

sible emergency exits.

Few federal regulations govern limos modified after leaving the factory, and regulations often vary by state.

Eric Weiss, a spokesman for the NTSB, declined to comment.

In a 2015 letter, then-NTSB Chairman Christopher Hart said the board shared Schumer's concern that "relatively little information is available about how stretch limousines perform in a variety of crash scenarios."

Hundreds of mourners and the presiding pastor, the Rev. O. Robert DeMartinis, also sought answers Saturday at a church in Amsterdam at the funeral for Allison King; sister Abigail Jackson and her husband, Adam Jackson; sister Mary Dyson and her husband Robert Dyson; sister Amy Steenburg and her husband Axel Steenburg; and Steenburg's older brother, Richard Steenburg.

"The question that is in the hearts of so many is: Why?" The Rev. O. Robert DeMartinis told mourners.

"Why did these 20 individuals have to be taken from us so quickly and so unexpectedly?"

DeMartinis officiated in June at the wedding of Amy and Axel Steenburg. It was Amy's birthday that was being celebrated at the time of the crash.

He recalled them as a laughter-loving couple who made a sign asking wedding guests not to take pictures because "we suggest that you live in the moment."

Holding the sign aloft, DeMartinis said: "That's what they're asking me to ask you to do today."

While authorities continue to investigate the cause that wreck, New York prosecutors have charged the operator of the limousine company, Nauman Hussain, with criminally negligent homicide, saying he allowed an improperly licensed driver to operate an "unserviceable" vehicle. Hussain has pleaded not guilty and has declined to comment on the crash. □



This photo shows a church program for a funeral mass for eight of the 20 people killed in last Saturday's fatal limousine crash in Schoharie, N.Y., during a memorial service at St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic Church in Amsterdam, N.Y., Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018.

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In this March 13, 2018, file photo, President Donald Trump speaks during as he reviews border wall prototypes, in San Diego, as Rodney Scott, the Border Patrol's San Diego sector chief, listens. Associated Press

## Congress heads toward postelection showdown over border wall

By LISA MASCARO and MATTHEW DALY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Congress is heading toward a postelection showdown over President Donald Trump's wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, as GOP leaders signal they're willing to engage in hardball tactics that

could spark a partial government shutdown and the president revs up midterm crowds for the wall, a centerpiece of his 2016 campaign and a top White House priority. Trump is promising voters at rallies across the country that Republicans will bring tougher border security in campaign speeches that echo those that propelled him to office two years ago.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., promised a "big fight" over the border wall money and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has not ruled out a mini-shutdown as GOP leaders look to help Trump "get what he's looking for" on the wall. "Democrats want to abolish America's borders and allow drugs and gangs to pour into our country," Trump said without evidence Wednesday during a swing through Erie, Pa. "Right after the election we're doing something very strong on the wall," Trump added Thursday in an interview on "Fox & Friends."

Republicans steered clear of shutdown politics ahead of the Nov. 6 midterm election. They know voters have soured on government dysfunction, hold low views of Congress and are unlikely to reward Republicans — as the party in control of Congress and the White House — if post offices, national parks and other services are shuttered.

GOP leaders struck a deal with Democrats earlier this year to fund most of the government into next year. They presented their case to Trump in a White House

meeting in September — complete with photos of the border wall under construction. Trump, who previously warned he would not sign another big budget bill into law without his border funds, quietly signed the legislation before the start of the new budget year Oct. 1.

Left undone, however, is the portion of the government that funds the Department of Homeland Security, which oversees the border, and a few other agencies. They're now running on stopgap funds set to expire Dec. 7.

The deadline sets the stage for a new round of budget brawls.

Asked if he made a commitment to Trump for a shutdown over wall funds, Ryan said blame would fall to Democrats, who are in the minority in Congress and largely oppose increased funding for the wall. Trump promised during the campaign that Mexico would pay for the wall — a claim Mexico rejects and Republicans routinely ignore.

"We have a commitment to go fight for securing the border and getting these policy objectives achieved," Ryan said.

House Republicans approved \$5 billion for Trump's wall, including physical barriers and technology along the U.S. southern border, in a key committee, although it comes without Democratic support. A bipartisan bill being considered in the Senate allocates \$1.6 billion for the wall, far short of the \$5 billion the White House is seeking as part of a \$25 billion, five-year plan to complete the project. □

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## Guards, inmates ally against state in radon-exposure cases

By PAT EATON-ROBB

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) —

Guards and inmates at a Connecticut prison find themselves on the same side of a legal fight against the state, which they say did not do enough to prevent their exposure to radon.

A federal judge last month ruled against the state's attempt to dismiss a lawsuit by 13 inmates inside the Garner Correctional Institution in Newtown. They allege Correction Department officials exposed them to high levels of the radioactive gas, creating unconstitutional and inhumane conditions of confinement inside the maximum-security prison.

A separate lawsuit was filed in state court in August by 16 former guards and staff members, several of whom suffer from respiratory ailments. It asserts the staff should have been informed of the radon problem. "They told the current guards, but they didn't tell the retirees," said Lori Welch-Rubin, an attorney who finds herself in the unusual position of representing both prisoners and their former guards. "There was one gentleman who found out two years later that he had Stage 4 lung cancer and died four months after the diagnoses. Had he known to get tested, they could have caught it earlier and saved his life."

Frank Crose, who served as warden between 1992 and 1996, became the lead plaintiff after being diagnosed with nodules on his lungs.

Welch-Rubin alleges the state knew about the potential for problems with radon at Garner when it was opened in 1992 but did not begin testing until

2013, when it was requested by a teacher at the prison's school. The state has required radon testing at all schools since 2003, she said. Those tests found extremely high levels of radon inside the classrooms, which are on the second floor, she said.

"We're talking about levels in some places that are equivalent to smoking 2 ½ packs of cigarettes a day," she said. "Not just being exposed to smoke, actually smoking 2 ½ packs a day." Connecticut Correction Department spokesman Andrius Banevicius said the state now routinely tests for radon in the prison and recently completed the installation of a radon mitigation system there.

The state, he said, is reviewing the Sept. 27 decision by U.S. District Judge Janet Bond Arterton, which rejected the state's attempt to have the federal lawsuit dismissed based on claims of qualified and sovereign immunity.

Welch-Rubin asserts the mitigation system doesn't cover all areas of the prison and used pipes that were too small to properly vent the gas, which is naturally occurring and seeps into the prison from the surrounding bedrock. She plans to seek class-action status for the lawsuit on behalf of all inmates who have been housed at Garner.

After the 2013 testing, she said, current guards were told to get a baseline chest X-ray and file forms that would allow them to seek workers compensation if they develop health problems in the future.

"They still haven't tested where the prisoners are," she said, "so we don't know if what they are now doing is even adequate." □



This Jan. 14, 2000, file photo shows the exterior of the Garner Correctional Institution in Newtown, Conn. Guards and inmates at the institution are on the same side of a legal fight against the state over radon.

Associated Press

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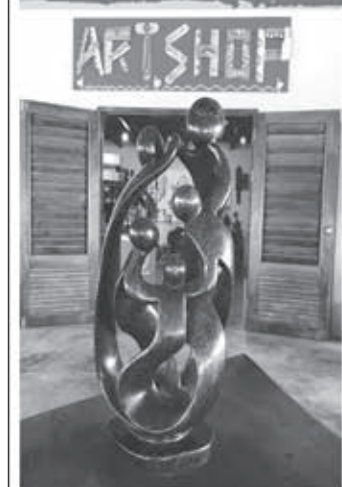
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# AP Explains: Harvard bias lawsuit heading to trial

By **COLLIN BINKLEY**  
**Associated Press**

**BOSTON (AP)** — A lawsuit alleging racial discrimination in Harvard University's admissions process is heading to trial in Boston's federal court.

The group Students for Fair Admissions has accused the Ivy League school of bias against Asian-American applicants, saying it holds them to a higher standard than students of other races.

Harvard denies any discrimination and says it considers race as one of many factors when considering applicants.

Both sides will present their cases to U.S. District Judge Allison D. Burroughs starting Monday.



In this March 7, 2017 file photo, rowers paddle down the Charles River past the campus of Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass.

a tricky topic for a school that has struggled to reflect the nation's growing diversity.

Harvard says it has made strides in that area but must be able to consider race in order to continue progress.

## WHAT ARE THE MAIN ARGUMENTS?

The lawsuit accuses Harvard of imposing tougher standards for Asian-American applicants and says it discriminates against them using a "personal rating" category.

It also alleges that Harvard practices "racial balancing," saying the school works to maintain a certain distribution of each race on campus, which in past cases was ruled unconstitutional. The group's case partly relies on an analysis of Harvard admissions records by Duke University economist Peter Arcidiacono, who found that Asian-Americans bring the strongest academic records but are admitted at the lowest rate. He also found that while Asian-Americans receive strong personal rating scores from alumni interviewers, they are consistently dealt lower scores in that area from the admissions office. Harvard denies the accusations and says the group has failed to provide any concrete evidence of discrimination. University leaders say race is considered only in the narrow way that has been upheld in earlier Supreme Court cases, and they note that Harvard's share of Asian-Americans has grown in recent years, reaching 23 percent of the current freshman class.

School officials see the lawsuit as an attack on their ability to build a diverse campus, and they vowed to defend the consideration of race for schools across the U.S.

Their defense partly relies on an analysis by David Card, an economist at the University of California, Berkeley, who found no evidence of discrimination in Harvard's admissions records. □

## Associated Press

The lawsuit was filed in 2014 and carries implications for many other U.S. colleges that say they consider race to admit a diverse mix of students.

The case already has pulled back the curtain on aspects of Harvard's secretive admissions process, including a "personal rating" that measures certain character traits.

A look at the case and what to expect:

## WHO'S INVOLVED?

Students for Fair Admissions is a nonprofit led by Edward Blum, a legal strategist who argues schools should not consider race in admissions. The group is based in Arlington, Virginia, and says it has more than 20,000 members, including at least some Asian-Americans who were rejected from Harvard.

Blum previously helped coordinate a lawsuit accusing the University of Texas of discriminating against white students. The U.S. Supreme Court heard the case and upheld the school's consideration of race in 2016.

Harvard, one of the nation's most selective colleges, is defending the "holistic" review process it uses to pick from thousands of applicants a year. It considers factors from grades to geography, but also race,



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## Florida insurers to weather effects of Michael, analysts say

By TERRY SPENCER

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)

— Florida's disjointed property insurance system that relies almost exclusively on small and midsize companies will take a multibillion dollar loss from Hurricane Michael, but has sufficient reserves and backups that providers should be able to pay claims without problems, analysts say.

Major national players like State Farm, Allstate and Liberty Mutual write few if any homeowners policies in Florida because of the high risk of hurricane losses, leaving the market to smaller companies and the state-created insurer of last resort, Citizens Property.

Boston-based Karen Clark & Company, which models catastrophes, estimates Florida private insurers will pay \$6 billion in claims for wind and storm surge damage to residential, commercial and industrial properties and vehicles. The estimate doesn't include losses covered by the National Flood Insurance Program, which has about 60,000 policies in the hardest-hit Florida counties. The program had no immediate estimate on its losses.

Analysts say that, despite their smaller size, Florida insurers should be able to cover their Michael losses through re-insurance - policies insurance companies purchase from global companies like Lloyd's of London to cover catastrophic losses. Most of the state's damage from Wednesday's Category 4 storm is in the sparsely populated



This aerial photo shows debris and destruction in Mexico Beach, Fla., Friday, Oct. 12, 2018, after Hurricane Michael went through the area on Wednesday.

Panhandle, lessening the financial blow. Florida insurers "are built to be able to withstand these types of storms that are expected to happen every 10 to 15 years," according to Brian C. Schneider, a senior director at the analytics firm Fitch Ratings. The company said the reinsurance programs performed well after Hurricane Irma last year, which caused about \$50 billion in damages in Florida. But, Schneider said, the industry believes many Florida insurers would not survive if a major storm made a direct hit on Miami, Tampa or another major city. The re-insurance company Swiss Re estimated last year that a Category 5 storm hit-

ting Miami could potentially cost the industry almost \$200 billion. The state has about \$17 billion in a fund to help private companies pay hurricane claims if they run into trouble.

Major insurance companies fled Florida's homeowners market after 1992's Category 5 Hurricane Andrew hit south of Miami, destroying much of the city of Homestead and causing \$45 billion in damages, adjusted for inflation. After the companies fled, many property owners could only get policies from Citizens Property and its predecessor, peaking at about 1.5 million policies in 2012.

The state, wanting to reduce its exposure, for

most of the last 20 years has been enticing smaller, niche companies into the market but required them to obtain re-insurance. The industry was also helped by a 12-year gap between hurricanes hitting the state from 2005 to last year. Their revenue is helped as Florida has the most expensive homeowners insurance in the nation, according to the Insurance Information Institute, with homeowners paying an average annual cost of just under \$2,000 in 2015, the latest year available.

The push worked as Citizens' footprint has shrunk by 72 percent, but remains the state's second-largest property insurer with about

420,000 policies - most of them in South Florida, far from Michael's damage zone. Spokesman Michael Peltier said the company estimates it will receive about 12,000 claims from Michael, but hasn't calculated an expected loss yet. Because its policies are in the highest-risk areas of the state, its average policy costs nearly \$2,600 annually with a range from about \$3,600 in Miami and the Florida Keys to about \$1,700 in Taylor County, not far from where Michael hit. The state's largest property insurer, Universal Property & Casualty Co., writes almost 600,000 policies. It did not return calls seeking comment. □

Associated Press



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## Round of talks don't resolve Brexit problems ahead of summit

By **RAF CASERT, GREGORY KATZ and JILL LAWLESS**  
Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — A flurry of talks between Britain and the European Union ended Sunday without a Brexit agreement, leaving the two sides three days to close a gap in their positions before a make-or-break summit.

An unscheduled, face-to-face meeting between EU negotiator Michel Barnier and British Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab, and a hastily scheduled meeting of 27 EU ambassadors in Brussels, had sparked speculation that the long-awaited deal was imminent.

Barnier dashed those hopes Sunday evening, writing on Twitter: "Despite intense efforts, some key issues are still open" in the divorce talks. The key stumbling block remains the need "to avoid a hard border" between Ireland and the U.K.'s Northern Ireland after Brexit, he said. British Prime Minister Theresa May is under intense pressure from her Conservative Party and its parliamentary allies not to give any more ground in negotiations, especially on the border issue.

The British government said in a statement issued Sunday night there were still "unresolved issues" but insisted negotiators had made "real progress" toward a divorce agreement.

The lack of a breakthrough on the border increased the chances that the Brexit negotiations will fail to produce an agreement spelling out how the EU will interact with its former member and vice versa. EU officials



**Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May attends a roundtable meeting with business leaders whose companies are inaugural signatories of the Race at Work Charter at the Southbank Centre in London, Thursday Oct. 11, 2018.**

have warned that real progress is needed at the summit starting Wednesday.

The British government said it remained committed to making progress at the summit. An EU official said no further negotiations were planned before the leaders of EU countries convene in Brussels. Both sides previously agreed that a special November meeting — to be called only if there is enough progress this week — would be the deadline for reaching an agreement since Britain is set to leave the EU on March 29.

The EU and the U.K. are seeking an elusive compromise position on the difficult Irish border question ahead of the summit. The "Irish backstop" is the main hurdle to a deal that spells out the terms of Britain's depar-

ture from the EU and future relationship with the bloc. After Brexit, the currently invisible frontier between Northern Ireland and Ireland will be the U.K.'s only land border with an EU nation.

Britain and the EU agree there must be no customs checks or other infrastructure on the border, but do not agree on how that can be accomplished.

Raab, Britain's Brexit secretary, was not expected in Brussels on Sunday, but he made a last minute trip for an in-person meeting with Barnier.

"With several big issues still to resolve, including the Northern Ireland backstop, it was jointly agreed that face-to-face talks were necessary," Raab's office said.

The EU's "backstop" solu-

tion — to keep Northern Ireland in a customs union with the bloc — has been rejected by Britain because it would require checks between Northern Ireland and the rest of the U.K.

The alternative — to keep the entire U.K. in a customs union until a permanent solution can be found — has outraged pro-Brexit members of May's divided government, who claim that approach would limit the country's ability to strike new trade deals around the world.

The idea is also anathema to the Democratic Unionist Party, a Northern Ireland Protestant party that props up May's minority government.

So even if May strikes a deal with Brussels, she will struggle to get it past her government and Parlia-

ment at home.

Raab's predecessor, David Davis, wrote in the Sunday Times that May's plans for continued close economic ties with the EU even after Britain leaves the bloc is "completely unacceptable" and must be stopped by her ministers.

May is struggling to build a consensus behind her Brexit plans ahead of a Cabinet meeting Tuesday that will be followed by Wednesday's EU summit. If Davis' call for a rebellion is effective, the Cabinet meeting is likely to be fractious.

Davis and former Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson resigned from May's Cabinet this summer to protest her Brexit blueprint.

While all three are members of the ruling Conservative Party, the two men have become vocal opponents of May's plan, saying it would betray the Brexit vote and leave Britain tied to the EU without any say over its rules.

Johnson, who regularly uses his newspaper column in the Daily Telegraph to excoriate May's Brexit plan, said the EU's border backstop amounted to "a choice between the breakup of this country or the subjugation of this country, between separation or submission."

"It must be rejected, and it must be rejected now," he wrote in Monday's edition. May's Brexit plan has also been rejected by leaders of the main opposition Labour Party, further dimming the prime minister's hopes of winning parliamentary backing for any Brexit deal she reaches with EU officials. □



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## Israel warns Hamas of 'painful' strikes if protests go on



Palestinian carry the body of Mohammed Abbas, 21, who was killed by Israeli troops during Friday's protest at the Gaza Strip's border with Israel, into the family home during his funeral in Gaza City, Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018.

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday threatened "very painful blows" against Gaza's Hamas rulers if they don't halt protests along the perimeter fence that have led to clashes with Israeli troops. Netanyahu said Israel is very close to waging a "different kind of activity" against the Islamic militants. He said "if it has any sense, Hamas will cease its fire and violent outbursts — now." Hamas has orchestrated near-weekly protests along the Israel-Gaza boundary since March, pressing for an end to a decade-long Israel-Egyptian blockade of the isolated territory.

The protests have intensified in recent weeks as attempts to reach a truce with Israel, including an easing of the blockade, have faltered. The Israeli military said 14,000 Palestinians thronged the border fence areas on Friday, burning tires and throwing rocks, firebombs and grenades at soldiers stationed atop earth mounds on the other side of the barrier. Some 20 Palestinians breached the border during Friday's protest. Seven Palestinians were killed, including four who the military said were shot while approaching a military position in Israeli territory.

Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman announced that following Friday's demonstrations Israel would halt all fuel shipments to the Gaza Strip until further notice.

Gaza, which already suffers from chronic power outages, relies on fuel shipments from Israel to power

its electricity-generating plant. Israel last week reached a deal to provide Qatari-funded fuel to Gaza to increase electricity supplies. "The State of Israel was prepared to improve the civilian reality in the Gaza Strip, but the decision of the Hamas leadership to use serious violence — especially on the same day in which tankers of diesel fuel were brought into the Gaza Strip — is what brought about the decision to cut off the supply of fuels," Lieberman said in a statement. Israel transferred four tankers of Qatari-donated diesel to the beleaguered Gaza Strip on Friday. Since protests began in March, at least 150 Palestinians have been killed while participating in or attending the Hamas-organized demonstrations. An Israeli soldier was also killed by a Gaza sniper in the same

period. The protests are aimed, in part, at lifting the crippling Israeli-Egyptian blockade of the Gaza Strip, which was put in place after Hamas took power in a 2007 coup. The blockade has plagued most of Gaza's 2 million residents. Electricity is supplied for roughly four hours a day, unemployment stands at more than 50 percent and tap water is unpotable. Israel and Hamas have fought three wars over the past decade and have recently engaged in several flare-ups of fighting. Hamas seeks a cease-fire with Israel to secure an easing of the blockade but accuses its West Bank rivals, Fatah, of thwarting the effort. Hamas has escalated the border protests in recent weeks in response to stalled negotiations with Israel moderated by Egypt and the United Nations. □

Associated Press

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Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, center, delivers a speech to members of Japan Self-Defense Forces (SDF) during the Self-Defense Forces Day at Asaka Base in Asaka, north of Tokyo, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018.

Associated Press

## Abe renews pledge to change Japan's charter to boost troops

By **EUGENE HOSHIKO**  
**Associated Press**

**ASAKA, Japan (AP)** — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe renewed his pledge Sunday to push for a revision to the country's war-renouncing constitution, in which he wants the military explicitly mentioned. Speaking before a field of about 4,000 troops, Abe said that a revision is needed to give his troops sense of pride. "You have gained public trust with your own hands," Abe, wearing a tuxedo, told the troops in his address. "Now it's time to fulfill our responsibility as politicians to accommodate an environment where all Self-Defense Force can accomplish their duties with sense of pride." About 260 tanks and other military vehicles and 40 warplanes were exhibited at the event.

Re-elected as head of his ruling party last month and with up to three more years as Japan's leader, Abe is determined to pursue his long-sought charter amendment.

Many Japanese conservatives see Japan's U.S.-drafted constitution as a humiliation imposed after their World War II defeat.

When the Self-Defense Force was established in 1954, public opinion was initially divided over its role, but today the force has gained support for its largely noncombat contribution in international peace keeping efforts and disaster relief.

Abe wants to add a clause to Article 9 of the constitution, which bans the use of force in settling international disputes. He wants to explicitly permit the existence of Japan's military.

Opponents say such a re-

vision is not necessary because the defense force is widely recognized in and outside the country as Japan's military and its constitutionality is no longer an issue.

Abe's ruling Liberal Democratic Party has continuously expanded the force's international role by loosening interpretations of Article 9. In 2015, his government passed a defense law allowing Japanese troops to defend U.S. and other allies in case of foreign attack, a fundamental change from its self-defense only policy. Two-thirds approval is needed in both houses to propose a revision, which would then be subject to a national referendum. Media surveys have shown most voters care more about their pay, education costs and the economy than a constitution revision. □

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## Myanmar demonstrators condemn foreign intervention

**YANGON, Myanmar (AP)** — Several thousand pro-military and nationalist demonstrators marched through Yangon on Sunday, voicing their support for Myanmar's armed forces and government while condemning foreign involvement in the country's affairs. The march led to a stage lined with portraits of Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, where speakers addressed a flag-waving crowd and condemned the international community's involvement in Myanmar, claiming groups would "fight back" against international bodies who have called for the



Buddhist monk and anti-Muslim community leader Wirathu speaks during a pro-military rally Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018, in front of city hall in Yangon, Myanmar.

Associated Press

investigation and prosecution of the country's top generals.

Nationalist monk Wirathu

also gave a speech calling for the international community to stay out of Myanmar's national affairs. □





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# Hungary: Ban on living in public areas taking effect

By PABLO GORONDI

Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)

— A constitutional amendment that prohibits people from living in public areas takes effect Monday in Hungary, but Ferenc Ribeny's biggest concern is the fate of his dog.

The revision empowers police to issue warnings to anyone seen living rough. Penalties for homeless people who receive four warnings within 90 days include jail time or up to six months in a public works program. Ribeny, 67, a former restaurant owner, has lived for a year on the streets of Budapest. His companion is Mazli, the terrier he got after his wife's death seven years ago. Ribeny said he has applied for a job at an animal shelter and inquired about occupying a shipping container that was converted into a home.

"I'm hoping it will work itself out, because otherwise I don't know what to do," Ribeny said during a meal at a daytime shelter Sunday. Without Mazli with him, "there's really no point in



Ferenc Ribeny and his dog Mazli (Fluke) sit at a homeless shelter in Budapest, Hungary, Sunday Oct. 14, 2018.

living." The seventh amendment to the Basic Law, as Hungary's Constitution is now called, was passed by lawmakers in June. Along with cracking down on the homeless, it includes articles meant to protect Hungary's Christian culture and greatly limit the chances of refugees receiving asylum. Courts declared an earlier

attempt by Prime Minister Viktor Orban's government to outlaw homelessness to be unconstitutional. Writing the ban into the Basic Law makes it harder to challenge legally.

Advocates for the homeless say the ban and the threat of jail time for violators are unlikely to solve the homeless issue, especially

when many of those on the streets need medical and psychological care most shelters can't provide.

More resources are needed to prevent people from becoming homeless and to house the ones that do end up with nowhere to stay, Shelter Foundation director Zoltan Aknai said.

"There already have

been several unsuccessful attempts for the current homeless care system to absorb those living in the streets," Aknai said. "Now, authorities are trying to achieve this with tougher measures." The Hungarian government says 9,800 places are available nationwide in shelters for over-night stays and 19,000 in total and recently allocated 9.1 billion forints (\$32.2 million) to help the homeless. Unofficial estimates say Budapest's homeless population is of 30,000.

"We are preparing to provide extra assistance to all those living in the streets," Ministry of Human Resources State Secretary Bence Retvari said about government efforts before winter arrives. Jutka Lakatos lives in a hut near an outlying industrial area with her husband, five dogs and other animals. She earns about \$340 a month cleaning offices, considers herself too old to apply for public housing and says she wants to avoid the "inhumane" conditions of homeless shelters. □

Associated Press



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## India minister denies misconduct after #MeToo accusations

**NEW DELHI (AP)** — India's junior external affairs minister on Sunday denied any wrongdoing after more than a dozen women accused him of sexual misconduct when he was a newspaper editor.

M.J. Akbar threatened to take legal action against the women, calling the allegations "false, baseless and wild" in a statement issued hours after he returned from an official trip to Africa.

It's the first time Akbar has reacted publicly to the string of accusations against him amid calls from journalists and opposition politicians for him to resign. "The allegations of misconduct made against me are false and fabricated, spiced up by innuendo and malice," Akbar said in the statement. "I could not reply earlier as I was on an

An Indian journalist picks up a placard from a stack during a protest against sexual harassment in the workplace in New Delhi, India, Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018.

official tour abroad." He said the accusations lacked evidence and were "deeply distressing," and had "become a viral fever among some sections."

He called the allegations part of an "agenda" a few months before India's general election. Since last month, several Indian actresses and writ-

ers have taken to social media with allegations of sexual harassment and assault by their superiors and colleagues, mainly at workplaces. They have also

increasingly expressed frustration with an anti-harassment law that has been lauded internationally but has done little to change the status quo in the world's largest democracy.

On Saturday, several journalists held a protest in New Delhi and demanded Akbar's resignation.

The string of allegations began with a tweet from journalist Priya Ramani on Oct. 8 in which she said Akbar was the man who had harassed her as mentioned in her article for Vogue India a year ago. Since then, over a dozen other women, mostly journalists who worked with Akbar or appeared for job interviews when he was an editor in Kolkata and New Delhi, have accused him of sexual harassment in the #MeToo campaign sweeping India. □

Associated Press

## Memory of slain councilwoman honored in Rio de Janeiro

The parents of slain councilwoman Marielle Franco, Marinete da Silva, center, and Antonio Francisco da Silva, right, hold street signs in honor of their daughter as they mark the 7th month since her murder in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018.

Associated Press

By **MARCELO SILVA DE SOUSA, Associated Press**

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)** — Thousands of people gathered in Brazil's second largest city Sunday to honor the memory of a councilwoman and human rights activist who was shot to death seven months ago. Marielle Franco and her driver, Anderson Pedro Gomes, were killed in Rio de Janeiro on March 14 while returning from an event focused on empowering young black women. At least 2,000 people joined the rally at Rio's Cinelandia Square for a

symbolic restoration of a street sign with her name on it.

The previous sign was taken down two weeks earlier by two supporters of right-wing congressman Jair Bolsonaro, who won the first round of Brazil's presidential election last weekend.

The pair said the Franco street sign had replaced the original sign and thus was an act of vandalism. Franco's partner, Monica Benicio, led Sunday's event at which 1,000 street signs bearing the councilwoman's name were dis-

tributed.

The event was a message of resistance to "the climate of hate and violence that we are experiencing," Benicio told The Associated Press.

"Taking down the street sign was disrespectful to our family and to all those who sympathized with the work done by Marielle who fought for a more just society," she said.

"They failed to keep her quiet," Benicio added. "Save those street signs, for they symbolize her memory and resistance and show that love always win." □



## LOCAL



## Peru's Rotisserie Chicken is Here

**EAGLE BEACH** — Las Brasas Peruanas is the new kid on the block, part of the restaurant, Asi es mi Peru, at Paradise Beach Villas. Offering authentic Peruvian roasted chicken that gives you a mouthwatering experience, moreover because this is a dish prepared with love by the Peruvian chef, presented with pride by the Peruvian owner Roxana van Nes and her Dutch-Surinam husband Jan van Nes. You will encounter soft and juicy meat, a crispy skin and that special taste because of a 24-hour marinade\_ a must-try.

"Pollo a la Brasa, roasted chicken, is a very popular dish in Peru and the first thing my wife does when she visits her home country is paying a visit to Pardos, a well-known chicken rotisserie in Lima.

She realized she never found a place like this on the island of Aruba", says Jan. "The seasoning makes the difference and when it lacks the chicken will be dry and without taste. That was our motivation to bring our own charcoal burning rotisserie from Peru, eco-friendly as it traps heat and steam internally meaning there is no smoke."

In the United States roasted chicken is a popular



dish, now visitors can have a taste of their favorite home-dish, but with the Peruvian twist.

### Also Take-Out

"Our chicken is marinated 24 hours in a special mix of Peruvian herbs and spices including garlic, cumin and Peruvian pepper and roasted for one hour and 10 minutes while preserving its full flavor. Another important element of our

newest product is that the price is more than reasonable, thus giving our clientele an alternative to our establishment Asi es mi Peru. And not to forget: the Pollo a la Brasa has a take-out option too." Jan continues giving an example of a table of eight persons that came to eat-in and left happy because of the quality of the chicken and side dishes as well as with the bill. "It is ideal for

families with children, kids love roasted chicken. Normally it comes with a fresh garden salad and fries, but we offer as well 'chaufa' (Peru's version of Chinese Fried Rice) and other side dishes. There will be more surprises in the future. Original combos with Inca cola, very well-known in Peru, are on the menu. We just opened and we already sense that it is a niche we found." To make the hap-

py meal complete there is home-made ice-cream, for sure a hit with the little ones. A family-oriented restaurant is what Asi es mi Peru strives for, and with this extra value of delicious roasted chicken they make this a fact. Asi es mi Peru and Las Brasas Peruanas are open for lunch and dinner, check out their Facebook page: AsiEsMiPeru or website [www.asiesmiperu-enaruba.com](http://www.asiesmiperu-enaruba.com). □





# ARTS AND CRAFTS BY LOCAL DESIGNERS

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## Wonderful Celebration of Culture



ORANJESTAD — It was the birthday of Madame Culture last weekend on the island. Our national theatre Cas di Cultura celebrated 60 years of existence while our Governmental Department of Culture reached 40 years. Together they make 100 years of culture a fact. Friday the Conference for the Performing Arts, called Arte di Tarima, was dedicated to this mile-stone,



**Saturday a Gala concert was presented.**

'Pour toutes saisons je t'aime' beautifully sung by Louna Arens. Father and son Ivo & Sergio Jansen touched the audience with their guitar play while Jossy Brokke brought in his own sentiment with Mi Pais. Raspao, a song about the typical shaved ice in Aruba, moved the guests to sing alone due to the happy presentation of singer Edwin Abath. Potpourri Tres Cabayero brought some gentleman's touch with three local singers Michelangelo Koolman, C-Zar and Beach Lama presenting each a song. Climax of the night was the golden voice of Imara Thomas, soprano. Classic, bolero, modern and a medley with Jairo Boekhoudt made the Classical Diversity through Song a breath-catching experience. The public was entertained with a show that started off a bit tame, but got wild on the way. After the show there was an after party in the foyer where the Aruban sentiment was continued to be touched by the CdC Orchestra & Choir who by the way accomplished a marvelous presentation throughout the complete show. A standing applause was the reward for this spectacular evening where once again the importance of culture and identity was underlined in a great way! □

At the Conference for the Performing Arts, called Arte di Tarima, you could hear talks about the benefits of the arts for many aspects of a community: social, educational, economical, beautifying life and more. Five foreign orators and about six local speakers elaborated on how art and culture are manifested within the society they live and how they use both as tools to progress individuals, groups and their environment.

### Emotional & Exceptional

The Gala Concert on Saturday was both emotional and exceptional. The 3-hour show presented 100 years of culture in a nutshell by means of a high-quality program with approximately 45 local artists and musicians and two invited guests: Louna Arens from Surinam and soprano Imara Thomas, Aruban living in Germany.

The show started with the song Show Must Go On sang by theatre director Vicky Arens and Lili Rodgers followed by E Rey di Gloria – Melange. Johnny Schaarbaai and Victor Camacho showed their talents on the piano while jolly Beach Lama presented a Calypso Medley. The dive into culture deepened with

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## Honoring of Mr. Brian & Mrs. Sue Springer

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Emely Riddersaat of Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Loyal and Friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented on

behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Transportation, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20 and more consecutive years.

The Honorees are Mr. Brian

& Mrs. Sue Springer, who have been coming to Aruba for 11 consecutive years and are staying at the Barcelo Aruba. The couple has taken several of their family and friends during their trips to Aruba too.



Emely together with Belinda, representative of Barcelo, presented the certificate to the honorees and handed over some pres-

ents to them and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



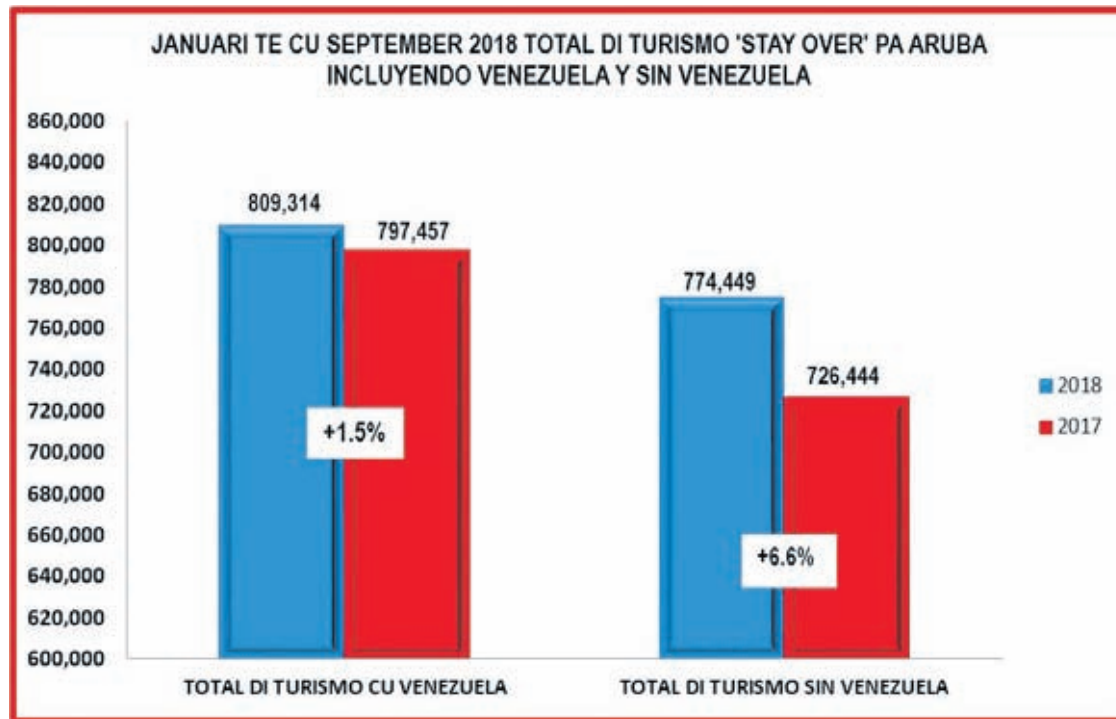
## A.T.A. first 9 months of 2018: 1.9% more visitors and 11.7% higher RevPar

ORANJESTAD – Aruba welcomed a total of 809,314 'stay-over' visitors during the first 9 months of 2018. This is 1.5% (+11,857 visitors) more compared to same period of 2017. If we exclude visitors from Venezuela, you will see an increase of 6.6% (+48,005 visitors) which equals a total of 774,449 visitors to our island. These numbers indicate an increase in key markets for Aruba such as USA, Canada, Colombia, Chile and Italy. For the month of September, Aruba received a total of 76,017 stay-over visitors, which is 2.1% (-1,627) less compared to same month last year. Excluding visitors from Venezuela, you will see this is 6.7% (+4,408 visitors) more which equals to 66,090 visitors for the month of September for 2018.

### 'Stay-over' Tourism

Aruba is being represented in 3 different continents. Compared to August of 2017, for 2018 tourism from North America increased with 8.2% (+3,778 visitors/total 49,715 visitors) and brought 65.4% of the total for tourism to our destination. In August, USA increased to 8.4% (+3,648 visitors/total 47,277 visitors) and Canada increased with 5.6% (+130 visitors/total 2,438 visitors) compared to same month in 2017. From January to September 2018, North America increased and brought 597,607 visitors to Aruba, which is an increase of 7.5% (+41,559 visitors).

The Latin American Continent decreased with 24.4%



(-4,953 visitors/total 15,311 visitors) in which Venezuela decreased with a 52.2% (-6,035 visitors/total 5,519 visitors) compared to September of last year. Colombia increased with 31% (+593 visitors/total 2,507 visitors) and Brazil decreased with 23% (-407 visitors/total 1,359 visitors). There was also an increase in visitors from Chile with 43.7% (+439 visitors/total 1,443 visitors). The Latin American Continent brought 20.1% of the total of tourism for the month of September for 2018 for our island. From January till September of 2018, Latin America brought a total of 119,608 visitors for Aruba, which equals to 20.4% (-30,662 visitors) less compared to same period of last year.

For what Europe concerns a decrease in tourism can be noticed of 5.9% (-525 visitors/total 8,327 visitors) more compared with same month of last year. United Kingdom decreased

with 41.2% (-1,070 visitors/total 1,529 visitors). As already informed earlier due to the so called 'BREXIT' in England, TUI was forced to cancel one of the charter flights from this destination to Aruba. Noticeable is that the decrease of 7,500 seats and the fall of the United Kingdom market this has been compensated with the increase from the other countries. The majority comes from the 7th additional flight per week of KLM which A.T.A. managed to confirm November of last year. Besides, TUI Netherlands increased their amount of seats to Aruba so that A.T.A. Europe can continue its contribution to increase the high quality tourism to our destination.

Other countries in Europe: Netherlands increased with 0.6% (+18 visitors/total 2,981 visitors) and Germany increased with 2.1% (+13 visitors/total 641 visitors). There is also an increase from Ita-

ly with 21.5% (+306 visitors/total 1,729 visitors). The European Continent represented 11% of tourism for Aruba for the month of September 2018. From January till September of 2018, Europe brought 65,445 visitors to Aruba, which is 2.2% (-1,438 visitors) less compared to same period last year.

### Tourism Cruise

During September 2018, 41,014 cruise passengers visited our destination aboard a total of 13 different cruise ships. Compared with month of September of last year, cruise tourism increased with 71.9% (+17,151 cruise visitors): in September 2017 Aruba had 23,863 visitors from 12 cruises. That is 1 cruise ship more compared to last year. From January to September 2018, a total of 568,261 cruise passengers visited Aruba (an increase of 5.8% +31,173 passengers more) aboard a total of 228 different cruise ships (an in-

crease of 1.3% :3 cruise ship more).

### Tourism Receipts / Central Bank of Aruba

According to the Central Bank the so called 'Tourism Receipts' for 2017 contributed to 3,078.5 Million florins to our economy, which is a 6.5% increase compared to the same season in 2016.

### Hotels / AHATA

According to Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association for the month of August 2018, the 'Average daily Rate' (ADR) increased with 14.7 % compared to September 2017 – US\$ 178.77 in 2017 compared to US\$ 207.66 in 2018. From January till September 2018, the ADR increased with 11.5% which equals to US\$ 269.08. The revenue per available room, the so called RevPar increased to 11.5% - US\$ 151.37 in September 2017 to US\$ 158.48 in September 2018. The occupancy room per night (ORN) decreased with 8.3% for the month of September 2018. The occupancy room per night (ORN) for the first 9 months of 2018 increased with 0.2%.

Numbers provided by AHATA for the first 4 months of 2018 are based on 14 properties including Holiday Inn Resort and the majority of the hotels with the exception of Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino. From May 2018 the numbers are based on 13 properties excluding Holiday Inn Resort. From August 2018, the numbers are based on 15 properties including Boardwalk Hotel and Brickell Bay Beach Club. □





Aruban born and bred Steve Francees has a passion for photography. Being a local photographer he knows the hidden gems of this island and captures them in an amazing way. As a Family and Landscape photographer Steve is ready to create your next 'vacation memories', morning and/or sunset shots. T: (297) 738-0777, M: stevefrancees@hotmail.com, [www.instagram.com/stevefrancees](http://www.instagram.com/stevefrancees) and [www.stevefrancees.com](http://www.stevefrancees.com)



## Nicolaas Store



Nicolaas Store was very famous during the golden years of San Nicolas and was built by the businessman Mr Francisco Geronimo Nicolaas. He was a businessman that came to Aruba from Bonaire and was born in 1920. Nicolaas Store is newly renovated and is home of the Community Museum in the heart of San Nicolas. A must visit when in Aruba. Nicolaas Store was the place to buy musical instruments and also all kinds of books and gifts.

## Fisherman



My grandfather was a fisherman and I grew up hearing so many stories as a child and also the daily risk that they take to leave their houses around 4am to go fishing and still today I like taking photos of fisherman. This picture is taken at the north coast of the island, 400 meter going west from the Gold Mine (Bushiribana).

## Photographer Nat Groeneveld



As a photographer I've heard about Mr Nathaniel "Nat" Groeneveld as a famous photographer in his days and to have a look at his camera's and equipment I surely can say that he had the best equipment for his days. His camera collection is also displayed at the Community Museum in San Nicolas.

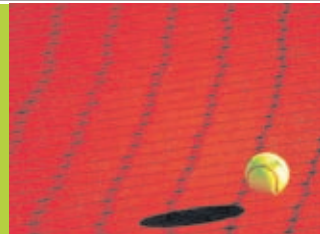
## Son of the legendary James Edgar Connor



This is Lee Connor playing his steelpan as he learned from his father James Edgar Connor just like his brother Nico Connor. Mr Connor came to Aruba from Trinidad in 1950 and brought with him the Caribbean Steelpan and got the name "Panman". He founded the Aruba Invaders Steel Orchestra and was part of all the tourism area since the fifties till today. Mr Edgar Connor made his steelpans from "Bari di Zeta", oil barrels and his legacy can still be seen by his sons Lee and Nico playing the Steelpan. The Amphitheater at Paseo Herencia is dedicated in the honor of Mr Edgar Connor.



# SPORTS



Aric Almirola celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the 1000Bulbs.com 500 NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Talladega Superspeedway, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018, in Talladega, Ala.  
Associated Press

## Almirola advances in NASCAR playoffs with Talladega win

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

TALLADEGA, Ala. (AP) —

Aric Almirola capped an absolute Stewart-Haas Racing rout at Talladega Superspeedway with an overtime victory that earned him an automatic berth into the third round of NASCAR's playoffs.

It also snapped a 149-race losing streak for Almirola and atoned for his oh-so-close moment in the season-opening Daytona 500.

"I just love racing at Talladega and I came to the track with the mindset that we were going to go race and we were going to go give them hell, and if we wrecked, we wrecked," Almirola said. "And if we win, we win. And we won. What a cool time to do it, too."

More important, it showed that SHR arrived at Talladega prepared to work as a four-car team and ensure one of its drivers made it to victory lane.

Continued on Page 23

# BROWNIE POINTS



## Steelers shock Bengals in final seconds, 28-21

Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown celebrates his touchdown in the second half of an NFL football game against the Cincinnati Bengals, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018, in Cincinnati.

Associated Press  
Page 21



# Palmieri scores 2 for 3rd straight game, Devils win

By TOM CANAVAN

AP Sports Writer

**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)** — Auston Matthews of the Toronto Maple Leafs isn't the only goal-scorer lighting it up in the NHL. Take a look at Kyle Palmieri of the New Jersey Devils.

Palmieri scored two goals for the third straight game and the Devils rallied from their first deficits of the season to beat the San Jose Sharks 3-2 on Sunday.

Palmieri has six goals in three games, just four behind Matthews, who has 10 in six contests.

"Whatever he's doing, he's got to keep doing it. Two goals a game every night," Devils goaltender Keith Kinkaid joked after make 37 saves to help New Jersey open the season with three straight wins for the second year in a row.

Palmieri had 24 goals last season but he didn't get his sixth until just before Christmas in large part because he missed 19 games with injuries. This year everything he shoots seemingly is finding twine.

"Getting some bounces. A couple have been pretty lucky," said Palmieri, who is the first Devil to score two goals in each of the first three games.

The game-tying goal 37 seconds into the third period wasn't luck. The Devils won a faceoff. Defenseman Andy Greene came down from the point for a shot and Palmieri whacked a rebound past Martin Jones.

"I told him after the second period, don't stop at one (goal)," Greene said. "They are different goals and he scores when they're bouncing off of him, on the power play and he's at net front. That's his game and we need him to continue to do that. I don't know if realistically we can count on him for two a game, but he's done it for three so why not keep it going?"

Jean-Sebastien Dea scored the winner at 3:25, stuffing home the rebound

of a shot from the circle by former Shark Mirco Mueller. Kinkaid made the lead stand holding off two late Sharks' power plays.

Joe Pavelski and Timo Meier scored for the Sharks, who are heading home after a five-game road trip. Jones made 33 saves as San Jose lost to New Jersey for the third time in its last 11 games.

"It's disappointing because we go into the third with the lead," said Pavelski, who picked up his 700th NHL point. "This team has the players to get the job done. We have to system. It's a couple of times pucks are finding a way to go into the net right now. We will get that figured out."

After a scoreless opening period, the Sharks took a 1-0 lead when Pavelski slammed home the rebound of a Brent Burns shot at 3:51 of the second period. Palmieri tied the game at 7:06 with shot from the left circle with the Sharks playing two men short.

Meier put San Jose ahead with 4:25 left in the second period with a shot from the left circle on a quick counter attack.

"We have to play harder," said Sharks forward Logan Couture, who had a shot hit the post shortly after Dea scored. "We have to play a lot better, harder individually. There are a lot of guys that haven't played well yet this season, or their best. Thankfully, it's only six games where this is happening."

NOTES: John Hynes coached his 249th game with the Devils, moving in third place in team history. Coincidentally, he moved out of a tie with Pete De-

Boer, the current Sharks coach. ... Sharks were 2-2-1 on road trip. ... Sharks F Evander Kane, who had four goals in the first five games, got his first assist of season on Pavelski's goal. ... Sharks D Erik Karlsson got a four-minute minor for a high-stick that cut Devils C Nico Hischier with 8:08 to play. ... Referee Tom Chmielewski left the game in the third period after being hit in the ankle by a puck. Referee Garrett Rank and the linesmen finished the game. □



New Jersey Devils right wing Kyle Palmieri celebrates after scoring a goal against the San Jose Sharks during the second period of an NHL hockey game, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018, in Newark, N.J.

Associated Press

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Novak Djokovic of Serbia kisses his trophy after defeating Borna Coric of Croatia in their men's singles final match to win the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament at Qizhong Forest Sports City Tennis Center in Shanghai, China, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018.  
Associated Press

## Novak Djokovic wins a record fourth Shanghai Masters title

By SANDRA HARWITT  
Associated Press

**SHANGHAI (AP)** — Novak Djokovic won a record fourth Shanghai Masters title with a 6-3, 6-4 win over 13th-seeded Borna Coric on Sunday. The second-seeded Djokovic has won all four Shanghai finals he's contested in his career (2012, 2013, 2015 and 2018). He previously shared the record of winning three

Shanghai titles with Andy Murray.

Djokovic holds an 11-0 overall record in finals played in China, where he also won the Beijing tournament six times and the 2008 year-end Tennis Masters Cup held in Shanghai.

"Maybe I was Chinese in the past life," said Djokovic, smiling, in explaining impressive record in the country. "I wouldn't be surprised, to be honest, with the way I feel here and the way I communicate and have relationship with the people."

"It's all very, very positive, for more than ten years that I have been coming to China. There is something special about this place that makes me feel like at home."

Djokovic dominated opponents behind his powerful serve, winning all 47 of his service games during the tournament.

"Well, to be honest, I'm not sure whether it has happened ever, you know, that I go through a tournament without dropping one service game," Djokovic said. "I'm sure that it hasn't happened too many times if it did. So this was definitely one of the best service weeks that I had in my career."

"But for me serve was always, so to say, a hidden weapon, the shot in the game that is obviously very important, "the" most important. But I always try to use it with an accuracy

and efficiency rather than speed and power."

The Serb offered 13th-seeded Coric one break point in the match, in the sixth game of the second set. Coric, who has yet to win a set against Djokovic in three matches played, sailed a forehand wide to miss out on the rare opportunity.

"It was really tough," Coric said. "I didn't know what to do exactly. I thought I was playing actually really well, which is in that moment not good because if I play bad, okay, I know I need to start playing better, need to change something."

"I'm just happy with the whole week. I think it was a really good week for me." Djokovic, who has now won four titles this season, will move up one ranking spot to No. 2, pushing Roger Federer back to No. 3. The victory extended his winning streak to 18 matches, the longest of the season by any male player. Federer and Nadal both had 17-match winning streaks during the year.

Coric, who had his right thigh wrapped throughout the match, saved three match points on his own serve in the ninth game of the second set.

But the Croatian couldn't prevent Djokovic from snatching the title on a fourth match point in the next game.

Djokovic won the final game to love when Coric sailed a backhand long. □

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# Brown's late TD sends Steelers over Bengals 28-21

By JOE KAY

AP Sports Writer

**CINCINNATI (AP)** — Ben Roethlisberger saw the defensive alignment and knew immediately that the Pittsburgh Steelers had a chance for a winning touchdown. All he had to do was get the ball to Antonio Brown right away.

Brown took a few strides, caught the pass and ran behind Justin Hunter's block for a 31-yard touchdown with 10 seconds left Sunday and yet another improbable — and entirely predictable — victory over the Cincinnati Bengals. The Steelers' 28-21 win made it eight straight and counting over their AFC North rival.

"We've been in that situation a lot, and I knew we were going to do it," Brown said. They always do.

James Conner ran for 111 yards and a pair of touchdowns on the eve of Le'Veon Bell's possible return to help the Steelers (3-2-1) get ahead, but they had to pull off their third last-minute rally at Paul Brown Stadium to extend the streak. Joe Mixon's 4-yard touchdown run with 1:18 got the Bengals (4-2) thinking they might finally have their breakthrough. Roethlisberger and the Steelers stunned them again.

Big Ben came to the line on the decisive play and saw that the Bengals were set for an all-out blitz with no safeties to guard against a



Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster (19) catches a pass against Cincinnati Bengals defensive back Darqueze Dennard (21) in the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018, in Cincinnati.

big play. He immediately thought touchdown.

"When you see that look, it's how fast can I get him the ball," said Roethlisberger, who is 14-2 in his career at Paul Brown Stadium.

Brown caught the ball in stride, cut Hunter's block and outran the secondary for the winning score, leaving thousands of Steelers fans twirling their towels in the stands while stunned Bengals fans stood and watched a familiar ending. The Bengals are 2-16 against the Steelers at Paul Brown Stadium during coach Marvin Lewis' 16 seasons, including a pair of

playoff losses.

"Imagine how we feel," Bengals cornerback Dre Kirkpatrick said. "I imagine how the fans feel."

These Ohio River rivalry games are usually nasty, and this one had its moments. After Andy Dalton's final pass fell complete, several players got into a scuffle in front of the Cincinnati sideline.

After a sloppy September, the Steelers have won two in a row and found their stride behind Conner, who became the featured back when Bell decided to hold out. Conner has run for more than 100

yards in each of the last two games, and his pair of 1-yard touchdown runs Sunday put him in the company of a pair of Steelers Hall of Famers.

Conner has seven rushing touchdowns in six games, joining Franco Harris (1976) and Jerome Bettis (2004) as the only Steelers with that accomplishment.

"James was a bowling ball today," said Roethlisberger, who joked that it was probably the running back's final game amid reports that Bell would return.

JuJu Smith-Schuster had a spectacular catch — leaping over cornerback Dar-

queze Dennard and taking the ball way — that set up Conner's second touchdown.

Bengals receiver Tyler Boyd had a solid game against his hometown team, catching touchdowns of 2 and 14 yards.

Cincinnati linebacker Vontaze Burfict was in the middle of several dustups. He had words with Roethlisberger only 3 minutes into the game. He stepped over Conner on the running back's first touchdown, prompting a teammate to push him away before the situation could escalate.

Burfict also hit Brown in the head — he wasn't penalized — after a catch, causing the receiver to leave for a couple of plays. In 2015, Burfict's hit to Brown's head helped the Steelers rally for an 18-16 playoff win. On Sunday, Burfict yelled at a reporter in the locker room after the game for asking a teammate about the latest hit on Brown's head.

"A nasty hit," Brown said.

## SHAZIER'S RETURN

Steelers linebacker Ryan Shazier returned to the stadium where he suffered a spinal injury last December. He's been on the sideline for games this season. His return to Paul Brown Stadium was emotional for all the Steelers.

"He's inspired us," coach Mike Tomlin said. "Hopefully he's inspired many outside of us." □

# Jon Gruden: Raiders not looking to trade Cooper

By MATTIAS KAREN

Associated Press Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — Oakland Raiders coach Jon Gruden insists he's not shopping Amari Cooper to other teams.

He's more worried about the wide receiver's health after a helmet-to-helmet hit knocked Cooper out of Sunday's loss to the Seattle Seahawks.

Gruden denied a report by Fox Sports before the game that the Raiders (1-5) have been in discussions to trade

Cooper, the two-time Pro Bowler who was being evaluated for a concussion after a hit from safety Bradley McDougald during the 27-3 loss at Wembley Stadium. The hit from McDougald came early in the second quarter after Cooper couldn't hold on to a low pass from Derek Carr. Cooper stayed down on the ground for treatment before being taken to the locker room for evaluation. There was no flag on the play, but Gruden said it

should have been called for a helmet-to-helmet hit. "I thought so," Gruden said. "I'm just hoping Amari is OK. I'm not going to say anything else. I hope he's all right. He's a great kid."

McDougald defended the hit as simply being part of the Seahawks' style of being physical on defense.

"That's our style of play. That's kind of the Seahawks' identity," McDougald said. "Don't get me wrong — we're not trying to injure guys. We're not



Seattle Seahawks cornerback Tre Flowers (37) tackles Oakland Raiders wide receiver Amari Cooper (89) during the first half of an NFL football game at Wembley stadium in London, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018.

Associated Press

trying to take guys out of the game. We're just trying to really play physical. I wish nothing bad on Amari Cooper. I hope he gets

healthy. But we're just trying to set a tone out there that we're just trying to be physical when you touch the ball." □



# Butler practices again with Wolves, as opener nears

By **DAVE CAMPBELL**

**AP Sports Writer**

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Jimmy Butler is still suiting up for the Minnesota Timberwolves, with the opener three days away.

Despite his preference to play elsewhere, signs have begun to point to him staying with the Timberwolves at least to start the season. Butler took part in practice on Sunday, the second time he has done so since training camp began with his trade request as the focal point of the team.

"They want me to go out here and hoop to the best of my abilities," Butler said. "Make sure I'm healthy, compete, because that's what I love to do, and do it for the guys in the same jerseys as me."

Butler made a surprising, and reportedly disruptive, appearance with the Wolves during their workout on Wednesday. They canceled practice on Thursday, after Butler went on



In this April 11, 2018, file photo, Minnesota Timberwolves' Jimmy Butler, center, drives to the basket ahead of Denver Nuggets' Paul Millsap, right, during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Minneapolis.

**Associated Press**

ESPN to try to explain his motivations and frustrations in a wide-ranging interview that included criticism of the consistency of the effort by teammates Karl-Anthony Towns and Andrew Wiggins. When the Wolves played a preseason game in Milwaukee on Friday, Butler stayed back. The team

was off on Saturday.

"I can go out there and I can play," Butler said.

"It's all about playing hard. I think I can do that. When I'm gassed and I'm tired, I'll look down at Thibs and say, 'Thibs, I need a break.'"

Though Butler stopped short of assuring his presence on the court on Wednes-

day when the Wolves visit San Antonio, coach Tom Thibodeau said he expected Butler to play against the Spurs as long as he remains on the roster. The official stance of Thibodeau, who serves as the president of basketball operations, and general manager Scott Layden over the last three weeks has been that the Wolves will deal Butler if it makes sense for the direction of the team.

"Everything's fluid," Thibodeau said. "We'll continue to work through things."

Asked whether his relationship with Wolves management has changed, Butler said no.

As for whether he's still seeking a trade?

"Maybe," he said. "I'm going to be passive-aggressive like everybody else."

The Wolves face Cleveland in their first home game on Friday, and the crowd at Target Center that cheered so loudly for Butler in his

standout debut season in Minnesota is more than likely to produce the opposite reaction if he plays against the Cavaliers, considering the dysfunction his demand has caused.

"Sure, boo me," Butler said. "Ain't going to change the way I play. Probably going to make me smile more. Please, come with it."

Despite the distraction he has caused, Butler has continually said he harbors no bad feelings about his teammates.

"I want to help everyone to be better. I want y'all to win games. My name is still attached to this thing," he said. "I'm still here, so we'd better win."

Wiggins, for his part, has never expressed any ill will toward Butler.

"All I know is, when we start playing the real games, Jimmy is someone you want on your team," he said. "At the end of the day, people can say what they want to say, but he's a winner." □

## U.S. headed to Women's World Cup with 6-0 win over Jamaica

By **ANNE M. PETERSON**

**AP Sports Writer**

**FRISCO, Texas (AP)** — Tobin Heath and Alex Morgan each scored twice in the first half and United States earned a spot in the World Cup next summer in France with a 6-0 victory over Jamaica on Sunday in the CONCACAF qualifying tournament.

Heath's first came in the first two minutes of the match and she added a second in the 29th. Megan Rapinoe, Julie Ertz and Morgan also had first-half goals as the United States built a 5-0 lead.

Morgan's second goal was a penalty kick in the 84th minute.

The top-ranked United States is the defending champion of the sport's premier event, having won the final in the 2015 World Cup against Japan. It was the team's third World Cup title.

Canada, ranked No. 5 in the world, also clinched a spot in France with a 7-0



Teammates celebrate after United States midfielder Julie Ertz (facing camera) scored a goal during the first half of a CONCACAF women's World Cup qualifying tournament soccer match in Frisco, Texas, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018.

**Associated Press**

victory over Panama in the earlier game Sunday at Toyota Stadium.

The top three finishers in

the CONCACAF Women's Championship represent the region in France, so the winners of both semifinals

earned a berth before the final. The title match and the third-place game are set for Wednesday in Frisco. The fourth-place finisher will face Argentina in a playoff for a spot in France.

Jamaica, ranked No. 64th in the world, was vying to become the first Caribbean nation to go to a World Cup. The Reggae Girlz upset Costa Rica 1-0 in the group stage before routing Cuba 9-0 to finish second to Canada in Group B.

The island nation re-started its women's national team program in 2014 after a six-year hiatus, boosted by the support of Bob Marley's oldest daughter, Cedella Marley.

The United States has dominated the competition in the tournament. The team averaged six goals a game in its group stage, winning all three matches. They took 114 shots, far more than the second-best team in the field, Canada (77). In their final group-stage match, the U.S. women

outshot injury-depleted Trinidad and Tobago 59-0.

The United States outshot Jamaica 26-1.

Morgan's goals tied her with Canada's Adriana Leon for the tournament lead with six. Morgan has 16 goals for the United States this year, and she has 23 goals in her last 23 matches. She has 96 career goals.

Heath, who spent much of 2017 and the beginning of this year sidelined by injury, has seven goals in seven starts this year. Her second goal of the night came on a spectacular serve from Portland Thorns' teammate Lindsay Horan. On the run, Heath smashed it past Jamaica goalkeeper Sydney Schneider.

The match slowed down in the second half, played in a steady rain. But the thunderstorms that had been forecast never materialized.

Seventeen teams have earned trips to the World Cup. There are seven teams yet to be determined. □





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## NASCAR

Continued from Page 18

The SHR Fords were untouchable all weekend. They swept qualifying, won every stage of Sunday's race and used teamwork to pull away from the field. As the laps wound down, Kurt Busch led his three teammates in a straight line and pulled the train away from the pack, which couldn't organize itself behind the SHR group to mount any sort of challenge.

But the dynamics changed when Alex Bowman spun with three laps remaining to bring out an ill-timed caution.

Now the race was going to overtime, and two of the SHR cars didn't have enough gas for the extra laps.

First Busch's fuel light began to flicker. Then Kevin Harvick got the same warning. As the field roared to the green flag, Harvick forfeited a shot at victory by pulling off the track to get enough gas to make it to the finish.

Busch stayed out as the leader with Almirola and

Clint Bowyer looking for a slot to slip past him for the victory. Then Busch ran out of gas headed to the checkered flag and Almirola zipped by for his first victory of the season, first since joining SHR this year as the replacement for Danica Patrick, and first since the rain-shortened Daytona race in July 2014. It was the second Cup victory of his career.

Almirola was also leading on the final lap in overtime of the season-opening Daytona 500 until he was wrecked by winner Austin Dillon.

Almirola thought he had last week's race at Dover won until a caution triggered by teammate Bowyer ruined his shot at the victory. A week later, he got his checkered flag and his stamp into the round of eight into the playoffs.

"Four or five times this year I feel like we've had a shot to win and haven't been able to seal the deal," Almirola said.

Bowyer finished second, congratulated his teammate and praised the SHR cooperation.



**Aric Almirola's crew celebrates after he won the 1000Bulbs.com 500 NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Talladega Superspeedway, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018, in Talladega, Ala.**

Associated Press

"He had that race won last week, and it was me that brought out the caution, so I feel like he got a little redemption there," Bowyer said. "I don't think you can write enough about the job that everybody at Stewart-Haas did. We finally got all four cars to the cream of the crop. Oh my gosh, was

it awesome."

"Obviously they had it choreographed to restart really well," Stenhouse said. "They definitely did their homework. They used to not qualify very good, and obviously they've went to work on their speedway cars.

Their cars are just really

fast. They were committed to working together and blocking people at the right time. Those four were just getting away. It was pretty impressive to watch."

SHR competition director Greg Zipadelli said the effort started after Dover when the drivers were urged to work together at Talladega as teammates.

"Last week we didn't do a great job executing as a group," Zipadelli said. "We just talked a lot about it. I just think everybody said, 'We need to help each other, work together, show everybody that we are teammates.' I felt like our cars were strong enough that if we did that, we would have a very strong day."

Busch faded to 14th and Harvick wound up 28th — a disappointing end because SHR was poised for a 1-2-3-4 finish before the race went to overtime.

But the team understood how dominant it had been all day and fortunate it was to leave Talladega with one driver locked into the next round of the playoffs and the other three still in contention. □

## Biles bothered by new USA Gymnastics CEO's anti-Nike tweet

By The Associated Press

Olympic champion Simone Biles is upset about an anti-Nike tweet from USA Gymnastics interim president and CEO Mary Bono.

Bono was appointed Friday to hold the position while USA Gymnastics searches for a permanent successor to Kerry Perry, who resigned under pressure from the United States Olympic Committee in September after spending nine months on the job.

Biles responded Saturday to a tweet from Bono last

month criticizing Nike following the release of its advertising campaign featuring former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick. Bono, a former Republican congresswoman, had posted a photo of herself drawing over a Nike logo on a golf shoe.

Biles quote-tweeted Bono's photo and wrote: "(asterisk)mouth drop(asterisk) don't worry, it's not like we needed a smarter usa gymnastics president or any sponsors or anything." Bono deleted her tweet

about five hours later, saying she regretted the post and respects "everyone's views & fundamental right to express them."

Nike is one of Biles' sponsors.

Biles is among the more than 200 women who have come forward over the last two years claiming they were sexually abused by former team doctor Larry Nassar under the guise of treatment. Biles was critical of Perry for not being vocal enough in support of the survivors. □



**In this Aug. 19, 2018, file photo, Simone Biles competes on the uneven bars at the U.S. Gymnastics Championships in Boston.**

Associated Press



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## How to check what Facebook hackers accessed in your account

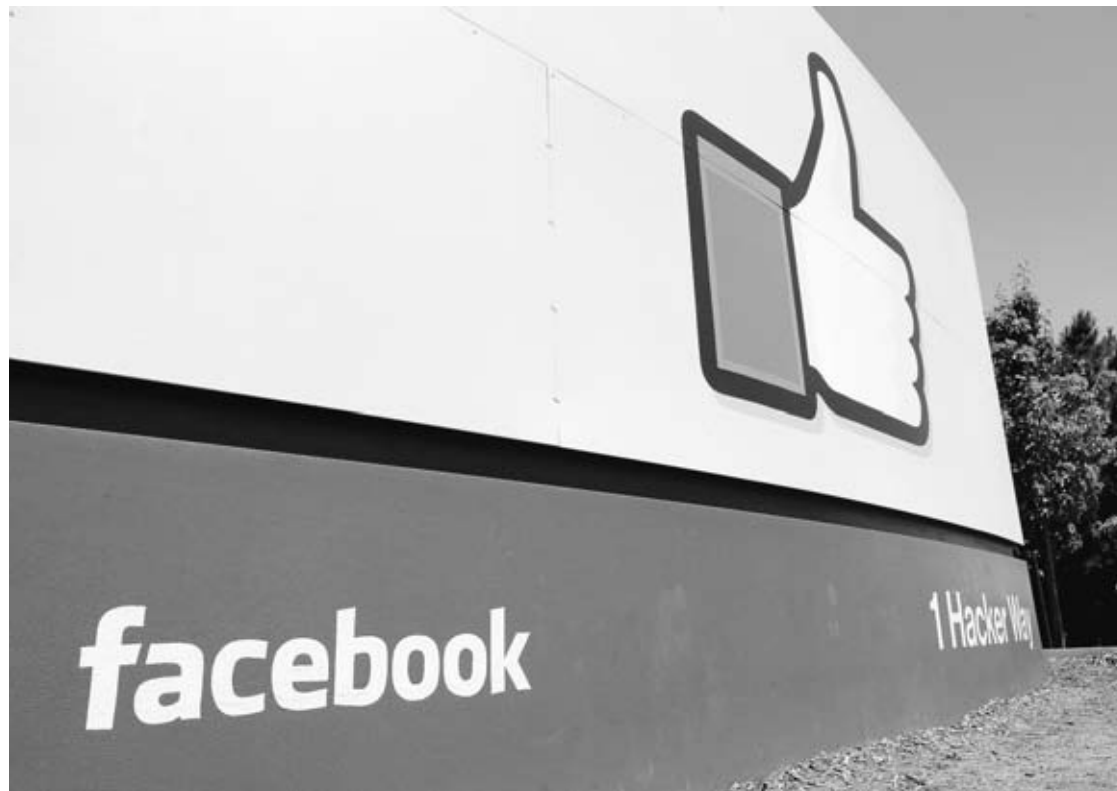
**MAE ANDERSON**

**AP Technology Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Could hackers have been able to see the last person you cyberstalked, or that party photo you were tagged in? According to Facebook, the unfortunate answer is "yes."

On Friday, the social network said fewer users were affected in a security breach it disclosed two weeks ago than originally estimated — nearly 30 million, down from 50 million. In additional good news, the company said hackers weren't able to access more sensitive information like your password or financial information. And third-party apps weren't affected. Still, for users already uneasy about the privacy and security of their Facebook accounts after a year of tumult, the details that hackers did gain access to — gender, relationship status, hometown and other info — might be even more unsettling.

Facebook has been quick to let users check exactly what was accessed. But beyond learning what information the attackers accessed, there's relatively



This July 16, 2013 file photo shows a sign at Facebook headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif.

**Associated Press**

little that users can do — beyond, that is, watching out for suspicious emails or texts. Facebook says the problem has been fixed. The company set up a website that its 2 billion global users can use to check if their accounts have been accessed, and if so, exactly what information was stolen. It will also provide guidance on how to spot and deal with suspicious emails

or texts. Facebook will also send messages directly to those people affected by the hack. On that page, following some preliminary information about the investigation, the question "Is my Facebook account impacted by this security issue?" appears midway down. It will also provide information specific to your account if you're logged

into Facebook.

Facebook said the hackers accessed names, email addresses or phone numbers from these accounts. For 14 million of them, hackers got even more data — basically anything viewable on your account that any of your friends could see, and more. It's a pretty extensive list: user name, gender, locale or language, relationship status, religion, hometown, self-reported current city, birthdate, device types used to access Facebook, education, work, the last 10 places you checked into or were tagged in, your website, people or Pages you follow and your 15 most recent searches.

An additional 1 million accounts were affected, but hackers didn't get any information from them. The company isn't giving a breakdown of where these users are, but says the breach was "fairly broad." It plans to send messages to people whose accounts

were hacked.

Facebook said the FBI is investigating, but asked the company not to discuss who may be behind the attack. The company said it hasn't ruled out the possibility of smaller-scale attacks that used the same vulnerability.

The company said it has fixed the bugs and logged out affected users to reset those digital keys.

Facebook Vice President Guy Rosen said in a Friday call with reporters that the company hasn't ruled out the possibility that other parties might have launched other, smaller scale efforts to exploit the same vulnerability before it was disabled.

Patrick Moorhead, founder of Moor Insights & Strategy, said the breach appeared similar to identity theft breaches that have occurred at companies including Yahoo and Target in 2013.

"Those personal details could be very easily be used for identity theft to sign up for credit cards, get a loan, get your banking password, etc.," he said. "Facebook should provide all those customers free credit monitoring to make sure the damage is minimized." Thomas Rid, a professor at the Johns Hopkins University, also said the evidence, particularly the size of the breach, seems to point to a criminal motive rather than a sophisticated state operation, which usually targets fewer people. "This doesn't sound very targeted at all," he said. "Usually when you're looking at a sophisticated government operation, then a couple of thousand people hacked is a lot, but they usually know who they're going after." □

## New tuition-free coding school to launch in West Virginia

**HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (AP)**

— Officials say West Virginia has a new, tuition-free coding school.

The Herald-Dispatch reports Huntington Mayor Steve Williams was among officials who announced the launch of NewForce on Thursday at Mountwest Community and Technical College.

Potential students do not

need experience in coding, software development or math.

The school will offer six months of intensive technology training with a goal to prepare employees for companies in West Virginia. Students will learn software development languages including HTML, CSS and JavaScript.

The program ends with a

job interview day.

Williams says Appalachia is poised to be the next Silicon Valley as officials create systems to accelerate students' careers.

NewForce's first class is Jan. 14 and developers hope to have at least 15 students but can accommodate 25.

Applications are open through Nov. 9. □



# Online natural and organic grocery Thrive aims to fill niche

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Thrive Market, a four-year-old online membership-based natural and organic food retailer, has successfully filled a niche modeled after Costco but just for healthy items.

CEO Nick Green, along with his two co-founders Gunnar Lovelace and Sasha Siddhartha, saw a big opportunity to make healthy food more accessible for middle-class American shoppers who found Whole Foods too expensive and were overwhelmed by the increasing choices at discounters.

Members pay an annual membership fee of \$59.95 to enjoy a 25 to 50 percent discount off traditional retail prices. For every membership it sells, Thrive gives away one to a low-income family.

Green, 33, already had another successful business with a social mission under his belt. As an undergrad at Harvard, he started Ivy



This undated photo provided by Thrive Market shows cofounder Nick Green. Thrive Market, a four-year-old online membership-based natural and organic food retailer, has successfully found a niche using Costco as a model, but just for healthy products.

Insiders that made college test prep more affordable. It was acquired by Revolution Prep in 2010.

Still, the Los Angeles-based retailer had a rocky start. It was first rejected by more than 50 venture capitalists

before raising its first \$8.5 million in financing from more than 150 health and wellness influencers who understood the problems in their communities.

Thrive, which has about 6,000 products, started with grocery items like snacks and non-toxic cleaning products, but has expanded to include fresh meat and seafood, sourced from suppliers using ethical practices. It allows shoppers to shop by diet, from organic and paleo to gluten free. Thrive has also been creating its own store label brands, which includes extra virgin olive oil and

organic fusilli. Green declined to comment on specific sales figures, but says it does hundreds of millions of dollars in annual sales.

Green talks with The Associated Press about the inspiration for Thrive, the business model and why he's not afraid of Amazon. The questions and answers have been edited for clarity and length.

**Q.** What was your inspiration for Thrive?

**A.** At the time, you had trusted retailers like Whole Foods, who weren't accessible to most people. And then you got the conventional retailers who were

starting to have more organic offerings. And if you are new to the category, you're trying to figure out, "Where do I start?" We really want to make it simple and easy. That meant getting the prices down, but it also meant curating the catalog. So instead of having 40 almond butters, let's have four. It came down to really listening to the customer of what is the problem for someone who is middle class, middle America wanting to get healthy today.

**Q.** What's your business model?

**A.** We charge \$60 annually. You pay it one-time upfront. It gives you access to the site the entire year, and then we price at basically wholesale prices so we are making very little money — if any — on the products we sell, passing on all the savings to our members. Our business makes money on the membership fees. Costco was the natural touchstone for us.

**Q.** What's a big trend in food?

**A.** Simplification, fewer ingredients. We're always trying to remove ingredients from products. Take almond butter. Instead of having palm oil, which is an ecological disaster, we just use the natural oil from the almond. We have a number of private label products that use a single ingredient. □

## Iran's president seeks to downplay U.S. oil sanctions

**TEHRAN, Iran (AP)** — Iran's president on Sunday tried to downplay U.S. sanctions targeting the country's vital oil and gas sector that are set to be restored next month. Speaking in Tehran University to mark the start of the academic year, Hassan Rouhani said the Nov. 4 sanctions "will have no effect," because "the U.S. has already done whatever it wanted to do."

President Donald Trump's administration has been steadily restoring sanctions on Iran since he withdrew from the 2015 nuclear accord in May. Iran has been grappling with an economic crisis in recent months, with its currency plunging to historic lows and sporadic protests breaking out.

The U.S. has said it will press other countries to halt imports of Iranian oil, which would cut off a key source of revenue for Tehran.

Rouhani said the current




In this photo released by official website of the office of the Iranian Presidency, President Hassan Rouhani speaks at a ceremony to mark the start of the Iranian academic year at Tehran University, Iran, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018.

Associated Press

U.S. administration is the "most hostile" ever toward Iran, but that his country will overcome the sanctions through "unity and integrity." He said his administration has allocated some \$15 billion to purchase basic goods in the current Iranian year, which ends next March. □

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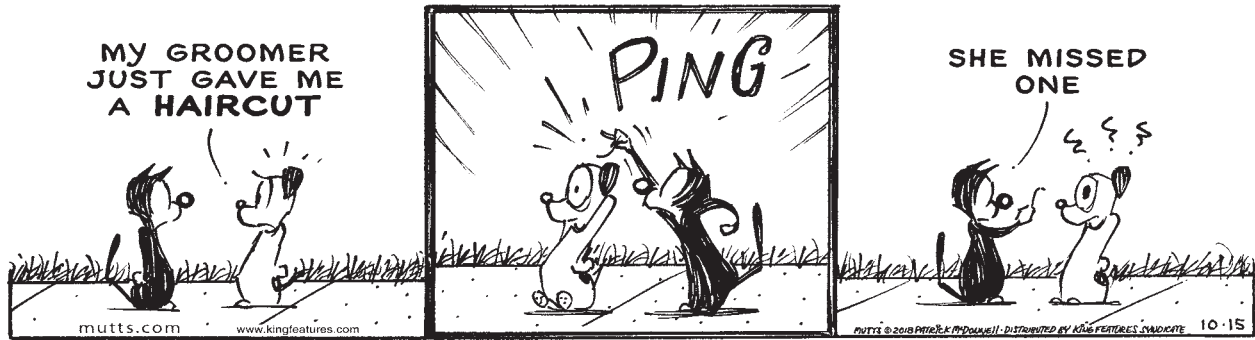
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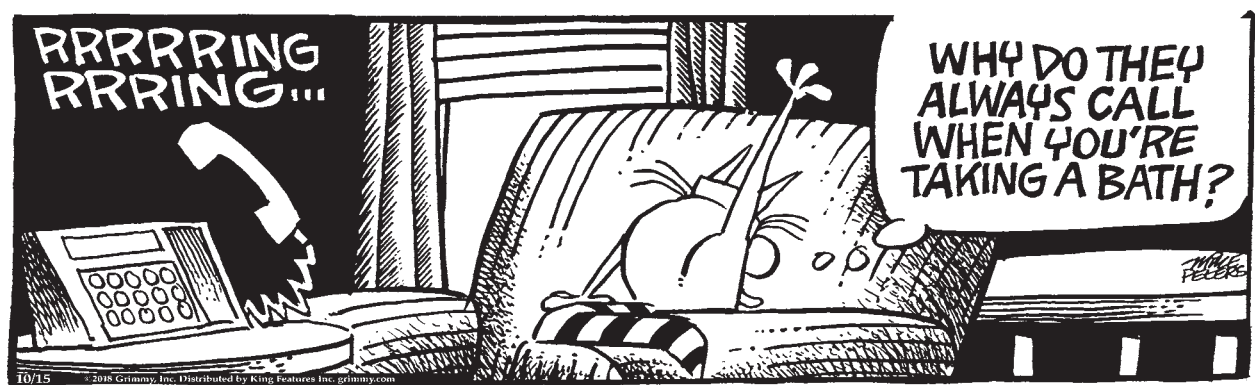
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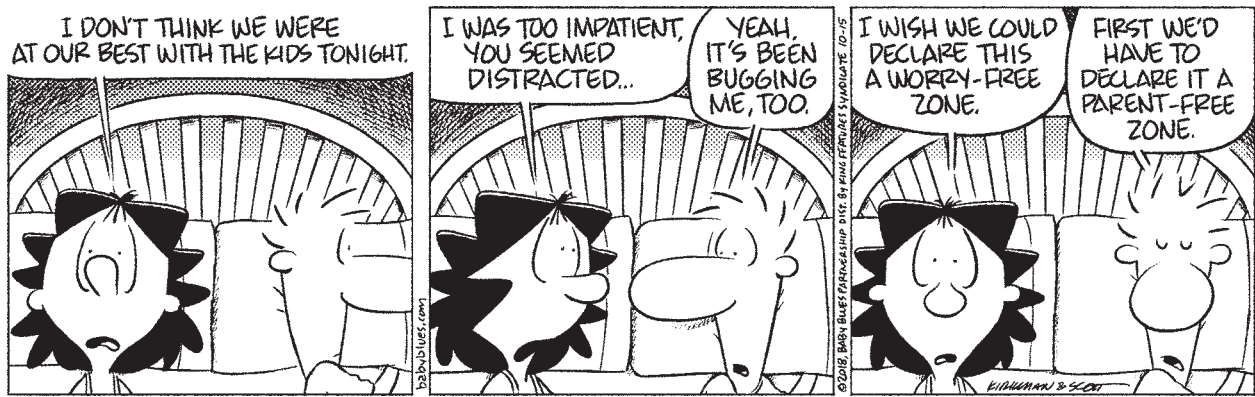
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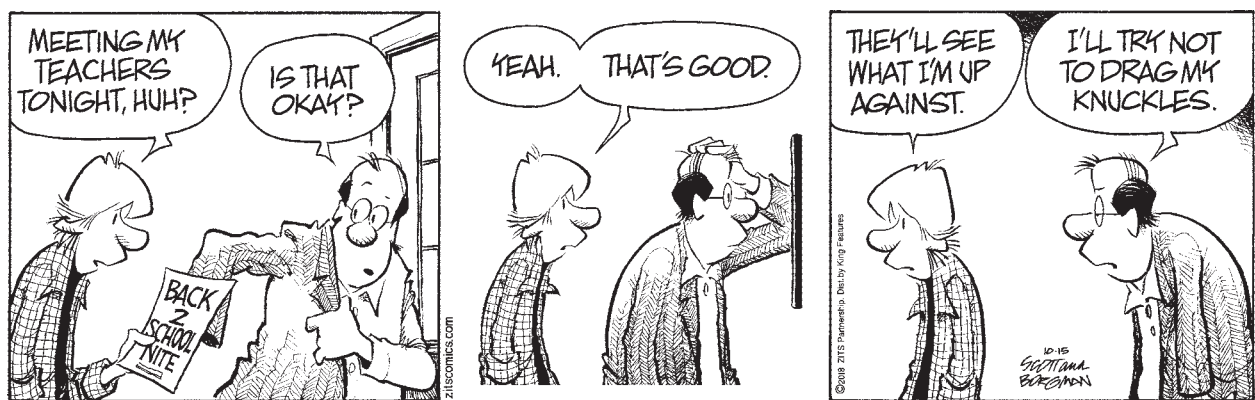
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	4			9			6	
5	1				2		7	9
		3		8	7	2		
	3	9						
6		7		5		1		2
						7	9	
		5	1	6		3		
1	2		3				8	7
	9			7			1	

Difficulty Level ★ 10/15

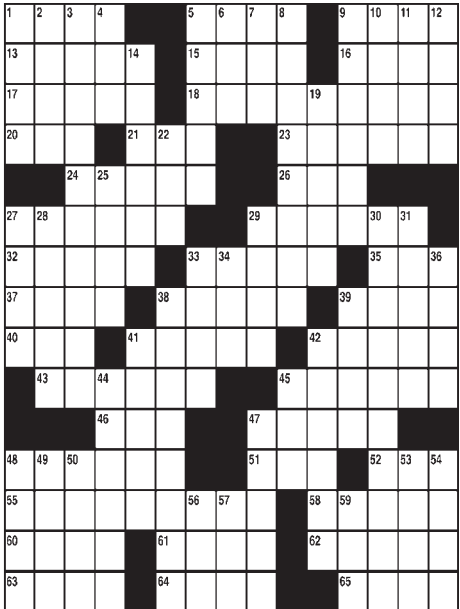
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

1	9	7	2	8	6	4	5	3
6	5	2	4	1	3	8	7	9
8	4	3	5	9	7	1	6	2
5	2	6	9	4	8	7	3	1
4	3	8	1	7	5	9	2	6
7	1	9	3	6	2	5	8	4
9	7	5	6	3	4	2	1	8
2	6	1	8	5	9	3	4	7
3	8	4	7	2	1	6	9	5

ACROSS

- 1 As \_\_\_ as molasses  
5 Punch  
9 Doe's mate  
13 Scraped taters  
15 Ditty  
16 Frau's husband  
17 Bring together  
18 Clear from blame  
20 Poor old horse  
21 \_\_\_ degree; somewhat  
23 Unlike casual attire  
24 Just right  
26 Conjunction  
27 Least cuckoo  
29 Straitlaced  
32 Alter to make fit  
33 Picture border  
35 Veggie casing  
37 Swallow hard  
38 Veil wearer  
39 Have nothing \_\_\_ with; leave alone  
40 Everyone  
41 Army vehicles  
42 Makes well  
43 Despot  
45 Simple baby toy  
46 Very late bedtime  
47 Waiter's distributions  
48 Resounded  
51 Abnormal  
52 Sorority letter  
55 Pienteous; abundant  
58 Father of Jacob & Esau  
60 Actor Christian  
61 Lung disorder  
62 Motherless calf  
63 Kill  
64 Cafeteria item  
65 Blend metals by heating
- DOWN
- 1 Whirled  
2 Actress Turner  
3 In the beginning  
4 Damp  
5 Walk off with



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/15/18

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

RIP	ALLOW	BLAB
PRIM	DIANE	RARE
MOLE	LEVEL	ACTS
NEEDINESS	ZEST	
TUBS	HOE	
APHIDS	DOMINEER	
LIONS	RIVAL	LEE
BANG	RAVEN	TIRE
UNO	LEVER	FETID
MOREOVER	MELEES	
AWA	JOEL	
FACT	ASCENDING	
OGRE	LEAST	NOEL
REAR	EARTH	GALE
EDGY	DRESS	HST

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10/15/18

- 41 Singer Jackson  
42 Frank  
44 Mickey or Andy  
45 Blushing  
47 Like poorly wrapped cheese  
48 Diminishes  
49 Black chunks
- 50 Graceful dance  
53 "\_\_\_ Mary, full of grace..."  
54 Like cinnamon rolls, usually  
56 In favor of  
57 \_\_\_ tree; cornered  
59 Female animal



# Safety officials want faster reporting of aviation incidents

By DAVID KOENIG  
AP Airlines Writer

Safety officials say a near collision of airliners in San Francisco last year was a few feet from becoming the worst crash in aviation history and underscores the need for faster reporting of dangerous incidents before evidence is lost.

The National Transportation Safety Board issued a final report Thursday on the incident in which an Air Canada jet nearly crashed into planes lined up on the ground at San Francisco International Airport.

The pilots were slow to report the incident to superiors. By the time they did, the plane had made another flight and the cockpit voice recording of the close call was recorded over.

The NTSB says the recording could have helped investigators understand why the Air Canada pilots missed the runway and were about to land on a taxiway where four other planes were idling before they aborted their landing. The Air Canada jet swooped to just 60 feet above the ground while passing over other planes packed with passengers waiting to take off shortly before midnight on July 7, 2017.

"Only a few feet of separation prevented this from possibly becoming the worst aviation accident in history," NTSB Vice Chairman Bruce Landsberg said in a statement accompanying the report.

Another board member, Earl Weener, said the Air Canada plane came within feet of hitting another plane and colliding with several others. The deadliest aviation accident occurred in 1977, when two Boeing 747 jets collided on a runway in Tenerife on the Canary Islands, leaving 583 people dead.

The Air Canada captain, identified in NTSB documents as Dimitrios Kisses, was supposed to report the San Francisco incident to



In this Oct. 24, 2107 file photo, the air traffic control tower is in sight as a plane takes off from San Francisco International Airport in San Francisco.

the airline as soon as possible but didn't because he was "very tired" and it was late. He waited until the next day. By that time, the plane was used for another flight, and the audio loop on the cockpit voice recorder was taped over. The NTSB did not allege that Kisses and co-pilot Matthew Dampier deliberately delayed reporting the incident, but it did say that investigators could have gained a better understanding of what the crew was doing before the close call.

The NTSB is considering recommending that cockpit recorders capture the last 25 hours of flying time, up from two hours under current rules.

Board member Weener also criticized the airline industry's reliance on self-

reporting of safety issues, saying the industry and the Federal Aviation Administration should consider stronger measures to intervene after a dangerous situation.

Weener noted that other pilots were alert enough to turn on lights to warn the off-course Air Canada jet. Yet once the danger passed, he said, they took no action to prompt "an intervention and evaluation of the Air Canada crew."

The five-member board determined last month that the incident was caused by the Air Canada pilots being confused because one of two parallel runways was closed that night. The closure was noted in a briefing to the pilots, and nine other planes had made routine landings after the runway was shut down. □

Associated Press



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# California canine blood bank disputes PETA abuse claims



This Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018, photo shows a greyhound in a crate at Hemopet in Garden Grove, Calif.

By **AMY TAXIN**

**Associated Press**

**GARDEN GROVE, Calif. (AP)**

— The animal rights group PETA alleges dogs at one of the nation's largest canine blood banks are mistreated, but the non-profit that runs the Southern California facility says the retired racing greyhounds are well-cared for and save other dogs' lives.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals sent complaints this week to California and local authorities alleging the 200 greyhounds kept at Hemopet don't receive proper care and are cooped up nearly all day in pens too small for their size. The group contends confining dogs in a facility to draw their blood is wrong and says they should be placed in homes and only donate blood if their own-

ers opt to bring them in. Hemopet, which has operated for decades, said the dogs are well-cared for and get regular walks and outdoor play time at its 1.5 acre Orange County campus. The organization said the greyhounds participate in a state-regulated canine blood donor program for about 10 months before they are placed in well-screened adoptive homes. Veterinary experts said there is a demand for canine blood to treat ill pets and those in need of emergency surgery. How to meet this need, however, is subject to debate.

"Community" blood banks rely on walk-in pet donors while "closed" banks such as Hemopet require dogs to live on-site while giving blood. The controlled setting ensures blood is free of

diseases.

California requires the closed model be used for commercial canine blood banks, said Hemopet's president Dr. Jean Dodds. She said she believes pets living in people's homes would need to be retested for disease before each blood donation to provide a comparable level of safety, and even then it might not be possible to safeguard the supply.

Hemopet supplies about 40 percent of the commercial blood bank products sold in the United States and is one of two such authorized facilities in California, Dodds said.

Dodds said the greyhounds would be killed if they weren't rescued from the racing industry. Hemopet provides medical care and spays and neuters the dogs and screens them to assess whether they are suitable donors. Greyhounds often have a "universal" blood type, she said, meaning it can be used for any canine transfusion.

"There's some people who just think doing anything with animals are bad," she said. "What if your own animal needed a blood trans-

fusion? What would you do?"

In a letter to California's Department of Food and Agriculture, PETA alleged that dogs' tails, paws and nails are injured in small cages where they're kept 23 hours a day, and blood is drawn at times from animals suspected of illness. PETA — which has called for an end to greyhound racing — said its allegations were based on reports from an undisclosed eyewitness. "She doesn't put them up for adoption until she is done bleeding them and that is outrageous," said Lisa Lang, PETA's senior vice president, referring to Dodds. "They are living, breathing dogs who deserve to live in loving homes like any other."

PETA provided photos and video showing the dogs in cages and wearing muzzles. The group said they obtained the footage from the witness.

Upon a request for an interview, Hemopet immediately agreed to allow an Associated Press reporter to tour its facility in Garden Grove. Some dogs were kept in crates and cages while others were housed in lon-

ger pens in pairs. Most had blankets and toys and took turns in larger cement yards for recreation. They had a sandy strip for running and a grassy area where volunteer visitors walked them. One dog had a neck bandage from where blood had been drawn. None of the dogs seen by an AP reporter showed any visible signs of distress.

Manager Karen Stalk said dogs in crates are walked five times a day by staff and more by visitors.

Jay Van Rein, a spokesman for California's Department of Food and Agriculture, said the complaint was received and the agency will investigate. He said the facility is inspected by the state every year.

Jim Gartland, executive director of the National Greyhound Association, said his organization can bar members from sending dogs to facilities that don't meet its standards, which occurred in a case in Texas, but so far they have heard only positive things about Hemopet. He said they have no problem with sending greyhounds to blood banks so long as they are treated properly and adopted out to homes after their service. Veterinarians consulted by PETA, however, called the conditions "unacceptable" and "cruel."

Dr. Sean Owens, medical director of University of California, Davis' veterinary blood bank, said controlled settings such as Hemopet allow for clean blood but modern veterinary science has progressed so that it can be obtained from "community" banks.

"There is enough evidence out there, both in the human and veterinary literature, to suggest it can be done very safely in an open colony," he said. □

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# 'Laughing grandmother' video makes picture book a big hit

By HILLEL ITALIE  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The country's hottest book isn't a hit because of Oprah Winfrey or Donald Trump. It's all because of a laughing Scottish grandmother. Thanks to a viral video of Janice Clark reading Craig Smith's "The Wonky Donkey" to her baby grandson, and her breathless amusement over lines such as "He was a honky-tonky winky wonky donkey," the 2009 picture book about a three-legged, one-eyed donkey has sold more than 100,000 copies in the United States this fall, much of that in the past week. According to NPD BookScan, which tracks around 85 percent of the print market, "Wonky Donkey" topped all releases with more than 90,000 copies sold last week, beating out Bob Woodward's "Fear" and Rachel Hollis' "Girl, Wash

Your Face," among others. "You can't ask for a better endorsement of your creation than when the person reading your book is having a better time than the child being read to. Janice's infectious laughter was an absolute delight!" wrote Smith, a New Zealand-based musician and author, in a recent email. "Remember, this viral sensation came about because a grandmother read a BOOK to her grandson, albeit a very special grandmother." "The Wonky Donkey," featuring illustrations by Katz Cowley, had already sold hundreds of thousands of copies in New Zealand and Australia. But until recently it had a much smaller audience in the United States. According to Scholastic, the book had sold about 75,000 copies and was out of print before the video caught on last month. "Before this fall, if you had

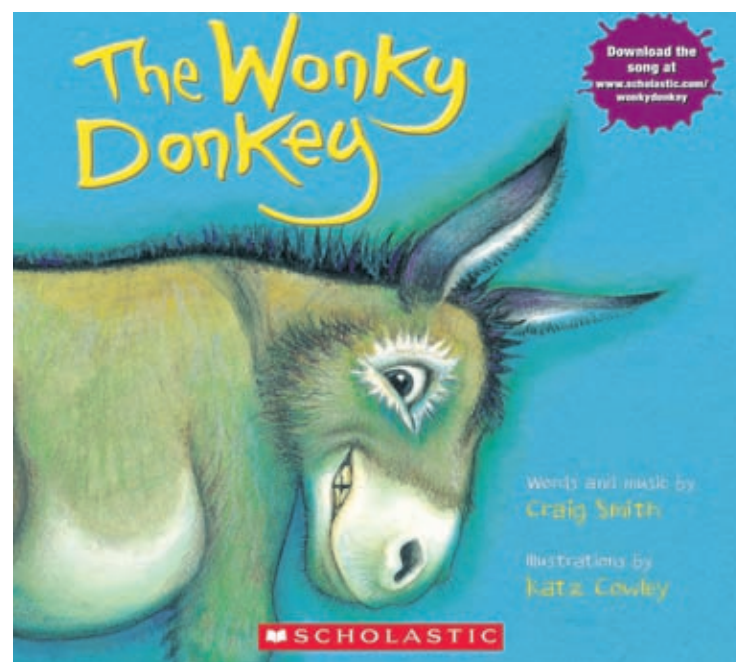
said 'Wonky Donkey' in my store, no one would have known what you were talking about," said Linda Devlin, owner of Linda's Story Time in Monroe, Connecticut.

"Now, it just sells and sells. People see it and say, 'Oh, I have to get that for my grandchildren.'"

On his website, craigsmith.co.nz, Smith identifies himself as a creator of "cruisy, easy listening, children's and sometimes humorous acoustic music." He has released numerous books and records, including picture stories such as "The Drizzly Bear" and "The Scariest Thing in the Garden."

"Wonky Donkey" started out as a children's song, written by Smith more than a decade ago.

"I was sitting at a table at Te Anau Rugby Club rooms in the South Island of New Zealand one night with my mates and family and we



This cover image released by Scholastic shows "The Wonky Donkey" by Craig Smith and illustrated by Katz Cowley.

Associated Press

were exchanging jokes," he wrote recently. "A friend of mine told the joke, 'What do you call a donkey with three legs?' And the answer was, 'A wonky donkey!' Everyone sniggered and groaned."

"I went home and got my rhyming dictionary out," he said, "and the cumulative play on words and Wonky tale began. Being an entertainer and songster, I thought it would make a hilarious song." □

## Crazy Fish Monday at

# BUGALOE



### Join Bugaloe for Crazy Fish Mondays!

Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is perfectly located between the Riu Palace Hotel and Hilton Resort on the famous Palm Pier with stunning 360° views of the crystal clear ocean. Open daily from 7.30am till midnight, Mondays are known as Crazy Fish Mondays for the delicious fresh fish dishes the chef at Bugaloe serves up.

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# 'First Man' blasts off behind 'Venom,' 'A Star Is Born'

By **LINDSEY BAHR**

AP Film Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — The Neil Armstrong film "First Man" settled for a third-place landing at the North American box office in its opening weekend in theaters. The Ryan Gosling-starrer and a host of newcomers, like the family-friendly "Goosebumps" sequel and the neo-noir mystery "Bad Times at the El Royale," couldn't unseat last week's top two films, "Venom" and "A Star Is Born," which again took first and second place.

As the month of October careens toward a box office record, the crowded marketplace can be a blessing or a curse for some films in their first weekends, although the hope is that they will play for weeks to come.

Such is the idea for Universal Pictures' "First Man," which took flight over the weekend with everything to its advantage — prestige, good reviews (88 percent on Rotten Tomatoes), a movie star (Gosling) and an Oscar-winning director



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Ryan Gosling in a scene from "First Man."

Associated Press

(Damien Chazelle). Studios estimated Sunday that "First Man" earned \$16.5 million in ticket sales from 3,640 North American theaters, and \$25 million worldwide. That was on par with expectations, but not exactly an eye-popping number for a space epic that cost nearly \$60 million to produce.

For Universal Pictures' president of domestic distribution Jim Orr, the box office intake for a film like "First Man," which primarily appeals to older audiences not inclined to rush out to a movie theater on the first weekend, is going to be "a marathon not a sprint."

"What we know is for these types of adult, fall films for discerning audiences, it's not about the opening weekend," Orr said.

"We're very comfortable that it's going to have a

long life at the domestic box office."

Audiences for the PG-13 rated "First Man" were primarily older (52 percent over 35), male (56 percent) and Caucasian (67 percent) and gave the film a B+ CinemaScore.

"I never expected 'First Man' to have an opening weekend trajectory that was off the charts," said Paul Dergarabedian, the senior media analyst for box office tracker comScore. "This is a film that

has a lot of awards season buzz. It will attract a lot of older viewers and it's going to keep rolling along and getting more and more accolades. 'First Man' will be standing many weeks down the road."

The comic book film "Venom," meanwhile, continues to belie poor reviews in its second weekend in theaters.

Sony Pictures estimated the film added \$35.7 million in ticket sales, down 56 percent from its first weekend, to repeat at No. 1. The film has earned \$142.8 million to date from North American theaters.

On the other end of the critical spectrum, Bradley Cooper's "A Star Is Born" continued to ride a wave of goodwill and awards buzz into its second weekend adding \$28 million. With total domestic grosses at \$94.2 million, the Warner Bros. pic starring Cooper and Lady Gaga will sail past \$100 million in no time. Fourth place went to "Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween" which took in \$16.2 million (down from the first film's \$23.6 million launch in 2015) while "Bad Times At The El Royale" debuted in seventh place with only \$7.2 million. □

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**OCTOBER 11 - 17**

LADY GAGA | BRADLEY COOPER  
**A STAR IS BORN**  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R]  
MONTHU & SUN 8:35  
FRI-SAT 8:35 | 11:25

**CXC**  
MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:20 | 9:10  
SAT-SUN 3:30 | 6:20 | 9:10

**U**  
MONTHU 4:55 | 7:45  
FRI 4:55 | 7:45 | 10:35  
SAT 2:05 | 4:55 | 7:45 | 10:35  
SUN 2:05 | 4:55 | 7:45

JACK BLACK | WENDY MCLENDON-COVEY  
**Goosebumps 2**  
[Sequel] [PG]  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MONTHU 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15  
FRI 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15 | 11:30  
SAT 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15 | 11:30  
SUN 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15

**SENSORY FRIENDLY PRESENTATION**  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 AT 1:00PM

RYAN GOSLING | CLAIRE FOY  
**FIRST MAN**  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]  
MON-FRI 6:05 | 9:00  
SAT-SUN 6:05 | 9:00

TOM HARDY | MICHELLE WILLIAMS  
**VENOM**  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]  
MONTHU 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20  
FRI 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20 | 11:50  
SAT 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20 | 11:50  
SUN 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20

**U**  
MONTHU & SUN 3:55 | 6:20 | 8:45  
FRI-SAT 3:55 | 6:20 | 8:45 | 11:20

KEVIN HART | TIFFANY HADDISH  
**NIGHT SCHOOL** [PG-13]  
MONTHU 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30  
FRI 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:55  
SAT 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:55  
SUN 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30

CHANNING TATUM | JAMES CORDEN  
**Small Foot**  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG]  
MON-FRI 4:15 | 6:25  
SAT-SUN 2:05 | 4:15 | 6:25

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## Netflix deal could boost all parts of New Mexico



New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez, from left, Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller, Netflix vice president for physical production Ty Warren and Albuquerque film liaison Alicia Keyes headline a news conference at ABQ Studios in Albuquerque, N.M., on Monday, Oct. 8, 2018.

Associated Press

**SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)** — While Albuquerque has been named as Netflix's newest production hub, those in the industry say the benefits are likely to reach

all parts of New Mexico. In fact, The Santa Fe New Mexican reported earlier this week that Netflix executives have already visited Santa Fe to scout for space

for a project next year. Eric Witt, who leads the Santa Fe Film Office, said he had two phone calls Monday from producers within an hour of Netflix announcing plans to purchase Albuquerque Studios and establish a production hub in the city. Members of the industry described it as a first step toward a booming new era for the state's film and television business.

Netflix establishing a regular cycle of its episodic productions in Albuquerque could create a sort of chain reaction, others said, bringing job opportunities for crew workers statewide, which in turn increases the call for more new workers and the state's capacity for more productions. □



## Once vowing not to record anymore, Elvis Costello is back

By **DAVID BAUDER**

**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Besides the fact that he's still here, Elvis Costello's fans can be grateful that he's open to changing his mind.

While something short of a vow, Costello said in 2010 that he didn't plan to record anymore. Yet on Friday, he releases "Look Now," his second disc since that declaration. The lush showcase for his backing band, the Imposters, is musically inspired by Dusty Springfield's "Dusty in Memphis" and has a renewed collaboration with Burt Bacharach at its heart.

That Costello, 64, is around to talk about it is because he was treated for what was described as a small, but aggressive form of cancer earlier this year. The world learned about it, somewhat to his regret, when he had to cancel some concerts.

The changing music business had taught Costello, like other older artists, that there was a diminishing return to recording.

"I didn't feel like I could justify the vanity of making records, compared to making my living with what I do most of the time, which is do shows," he told The Associated Press. "Up until that point, it had always been that (recording and touring) were connected, and it was just finding a way to disconnect them

again."

Thus began his "impresario years." He's had a handful of themed concert tours, including one focusing on the period around his "Imperial Bedroom" album and another accompanied by a game show-like "spinning songbook" that determined the evening's set list.

He didn't stop writing, however, much of it aimed toward theater. He and the 90-year-old Bacharach, with whom he made the 1998 record, "Painted From Memory," are working on a stage show.

While waiting for that to progress, longtime drummer Pete Thomas encouraged Costello to record some of the new material that had backed up. Costello recognized that his three-piece band had never really shown its range on a single CD, and concentrated on the garage band side of his diverse catalogue while in concert. The work on "Look Now" is ballad-heavy and lightly soulful, with plenty of space for the rhythm section of Thomas and Davey Faragher, the keyboards of Steve Nieve, orchestration and backing vocals. This was his original idea for a follow-up to "Painted From Memory" years ago, although Costello didn't get to it. He said it benefits from the extra time and experience.



This Sept. 17, 2018 photo shows music legend Elvis Costello posing for a portrait at The Redbury New York hotel in New York to promote his latest release "Look Now."

**Associated Press**

"Do we sound like we're old?" he said. "No, we sound like we know what we're doing and are alert to the possibilities. We could play it a lot of ways but we decided to play it like this." He said he's "tremendously happy that I went in and did it with these guys."

The songs, which include a 20-year-old collaboration with Carole King, tell typically complex stories: a woman stripping wallpaper and reflecting on a failed relationship, a rich woman who disdains the former lover hired to paint her portrait, a woman whose childhood

memories are haunted by her father's infidelities. In three of the songs, he sings from the perspective of a female narrator.

Another highlight is "Unwanted Number," a song he wrote for the female band For Real in the 1990s, about a woman deciding to raise a child born from a youthful relationship. He subtly rewrites the song to deemphasize the childhood abuse she suffered at the hands of her father and put more focus on her choice to raise the baby. Material written with Bacharach — most notably

"Photographs Can Lie" and "He's Given Me Things" — set the record's tone.

Costello said he and Bacharach haven't given up on Broadway. It's just a question of securing the financial backing.

"I can understand the caution of producers," he said. "They're trying to make a stage production out of 12 songs that are slow and melancholy, and adding another 10 that are slow and melancholy. You could understand if a hard-headed producer says, 'Well, where's the tap dancing?'" □

## The Bottle Rockets keep it real on basic 'Bit Logic'

By **PABLO GORONDI**

**Associated Press**

The Bottle Rockets, "Bit Logic" (Bloodshot Records)

As the world is running down, the Bottle Rockets offer a no-nonsense view of their surroundings through Brian Henneman's sharp songwriting and some rocking country guitar playing by John Horton. "Bit Logic" is the Missouri band's 13th album since their 1993 self-titled debut — which had backing vocals from Jeff Tweedy

and Jay Farrar — released when the Bottle Rockets were in the midst of the alt-country/Americana explosion. To say little has changed since then would be an exaggeration because their lineup is different — with the current one intact for well over a decade — and might create an impression of stagnation. Au contraire.

Henneman's keen eye for the complications in simple lives only gets sharper and Horton's guitar is ever more thrilling as is the

rhythm section of founding member Mark Oatmann (drums) and "new kid" Keith Voegelé, on bass since 2005. "Bad Time to Be an Outlaw" has funky guitars parts coming at you from both speakers, like a roots-rock "Marquee Moon." "Carrie Underwood don't make country sound/But she can afford it when shit breaks down," he intones later in the song. "Human Perfection" finds beauty in immediate surroundings, while "Knotty Pine" is a tribute to a song-



This cover image released by Bloodshot Records shows "Bit Logic," a release by The Bottle Rockets. **Associated Press**

writing room ("a psychiatrist-treehouse composite"). "Highway 70 Blues"

paints the frustration of an Interstate traffic jam and "Lo-Fi" remarks how technological advances sometimes diminish the fidelity of music listening.

"Silver Ring" ends the album on a tender note, as Henneman, whose voice combines Dave Edmunds, Levon Helm and John Prine, bears witness to a most crucial relationship, the one with your true love. You'll have to find your own solutions, but on "Bit Logic" the Bottle Rockets offer some clues. □



# Biosphere 2 legacy lives on more than quarter century later

By ANITA SNOW, Associated Press

**ORACLE, Ariz. (AP)** — They lived for two years and 20 minutes under the glass of a miniature Earth, complete with an ocean, rain forest, desert, grasslands and mangroves. Their air and water were recycled, and they grew the sweet potatoes, rice and other food they needed to survive.

About 1,500 people were invited and some 200 journalists were on hand as the eight original inhabitants of Biosphere 2 left their glass terrarium a quarter-century ago last month in two groups that no longer talked to each other amid the stress of sharing a small space and disputes over how the project should be run. Detractors called the \$150 million experiment a failure because additional oxygen was pumped into what was supposed to be a self-sustaining system.

A power struggle in subsequent months led Texas billionaire backer Edward P. Bass to hire investment banker Stephen Bannon, who was later President Trump's chief strategist, to bring the project back from financial disarray.

Today, Biosphere 2 is a different kind of place, a University of Arizona site where researchers from around the world can study everything from the effects of the ocean's acidification on coral to ways of ensuring food security.

"It started out as a great, big kind of societal experiment and was transformed by pure ingenuity into something else that has proved useful," said Jeffrey S. Dukes, director of the Perdue Climate Change Research Center. "It's also a really cool facility to tour." Joaquin Ruiz, a geologist who directs the project in the Sonoran Desert about 30 miles (48 kilometers) northeast of Tucson, said Biosphere 2's controlled environments allow researchers to conduct experiments they won't try outside "because you don't want to have unintended circumstances."



In this July 31, 2015 photo, a tourist walks to the main entrance of the Biosphere 2 facility while on a walking tour in Oracle, Ariz.

That means researchers from the Global Institute for Water Security at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada don't have to worry about harming the environment while studying how plants in the tiny rainforest adjust their water consumption.

The miniature ocean is being renovated so researchers from places including the University of Hawaii can continue experiments on a miniature reef without hurting reefs in the Pacific. A \$550,000 grant from Johns Hopkins University is helping scientists test theories about water movement on three artificial hillslopes known as the Landscape Evolution Observatory, a gigantic Earth science laboratory.

The university assumed management of Biosphere 2 in mid-2007 and in June 2011 announced full acquisition of the glass-enclosed area of just over 3 acres (1 hectare) that reaches as tall as 75 feet (23 meters) in some places, and the buildings and grounds around it.

Like Dukes, independent ecologist Christopher Field, director of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, said Biosphere 2 has proved useful for science in its current iteration. "You have to separate it from what it was originally to see its worth today,"

said Field, adding that controlled environment facilities like Biosphere 2 "are a powerful way to help us understand the way the world works."

"It is an important piece in our portfolio for understanding climate change," he said.

Biologist John Adams, Biosphere 2's deputy director, has been with the project since 1995, when he was a new University of Arizona graduate. "It's always been an audacious, ambitious project," he said.

Adams said 55 people now work at the site, including 30 researchers. Bass donated \$30 million to Biosphere

for their science," Jane Poynter, one of the eight original Biosphere 2 inhabitants, said of the current research. "Twenty-five years after we came out it's still very forward-looking."

Poynter said that since she and the other "Biospherians" emerged from the greenhouse, much of the original animosity has faded away.

The initial project was the brainchild of systems ecologist John Allen, and Bass was financial backer when the first group of four women and four men entered Biosphere 2 on Sept. 26, 1991. Now almost 90, Allen lives quietly in Santa Fe,



In this Friday, July 31, 2015, photo, tourists walk through the enclosed coastal fog desert ecosystem of the Biosphere 2 in Oracle, Ariz.

2 last year and sits on its advisory board.

"They have been doing a really great job, laying some strong foundations

New Mexico.

A mission by a second group was terminated early after Bass ousted Allen and other top managers

in April 1994 and temporarily made Bannon acting director during a management dispute. Bannon led the project for about two years, and Columbia University then took over, changing the once virtually airtight structure to a "flow-through" system and manipulating carbon dioxide levels to study global warming.

Poynter and Taber MacCallum later married and settled in Tucson, where they operate World View Enterprises, a company that is pioneering flight to the edge of space with high-altitude balloons. They met during training for Biosphere 2, and their romance flourished after entering the enclosure.

The couple hopes World View's high-altitude remote-controlled balloons will eventually be used for weather monitoring, communications and research at a fraction of the cost of satellites. They are also working on a craft called Voyager, which they want to use to take people some 100,000 feet (30,480 meters) above Earth.

Crew members Abigail Alling, Mark Van Thillo and Sarah Silverstone work with their Biosphere Foundation, which conducts marine research in southeast Asia. Fellow crew member Linda Leigh, a botanist lives near Biosphere 2 in Arizona. Crew physician Roy Walford, a well-known researcher on the effects of a low-calorie diet on longevity, died from Lou Gehrig's disease in 2004 at age 79.

The other crew member, Mark Nelson, lives in Santa Fe and recently published a book called "Pushing Our Limits: Insights from Biosphere 2."

In the book, Nelson reflects on the group's experiences and calls on people to renew their relationship with nature to help reverse trends threatening the original biosphere, Earth.

"I remain optimistic about the prospects for the 'human experiment,'" he writes. "Problems humans cause can also be solved by humans." □

Associated Press